

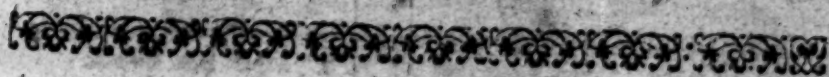
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NOTITIA ANGLICANA.

SHEWING,

The ATCHIEVEMENTS of all the *Eng-
lish* NOBILITY compleat, &c.



NOTES ON THE

NOTES ON THE



THE

NOTITIA ANGLICANA.

S H E W I N G,

- I. The Atchievements of all the *English Nobility* compleat (i. e.) their several *Quarterings* or *Pretensions*; being the Arms of the most eminent Families in *Great Britain and Ireland*: Also their Impalements, &c. as well as their *paternal Coats, Crests, Supporters, and Mottos.*
- II. Their several Titles of Honour, whether Hereditary, or by great Offices in the State: Together with just and correct *Blasons* of their said Atchievements, and Reasons for many of their particular Bearings, &c.

To which is added, by way of INTRODUCTION,

A CONCISE ESSAY,

UPON THE

Nature, Rise, and Intent of Arms and Armory.

S H E W I N G

Their progressive Growth, in the Practice of both the Ancients and Moderns; together with sufficient Rules and Observations, for attaining a perfect Knowledge in that Science.

Curiously drawn and engrav'd by the ingenious Mr. GARDINER and other eminent Masters.

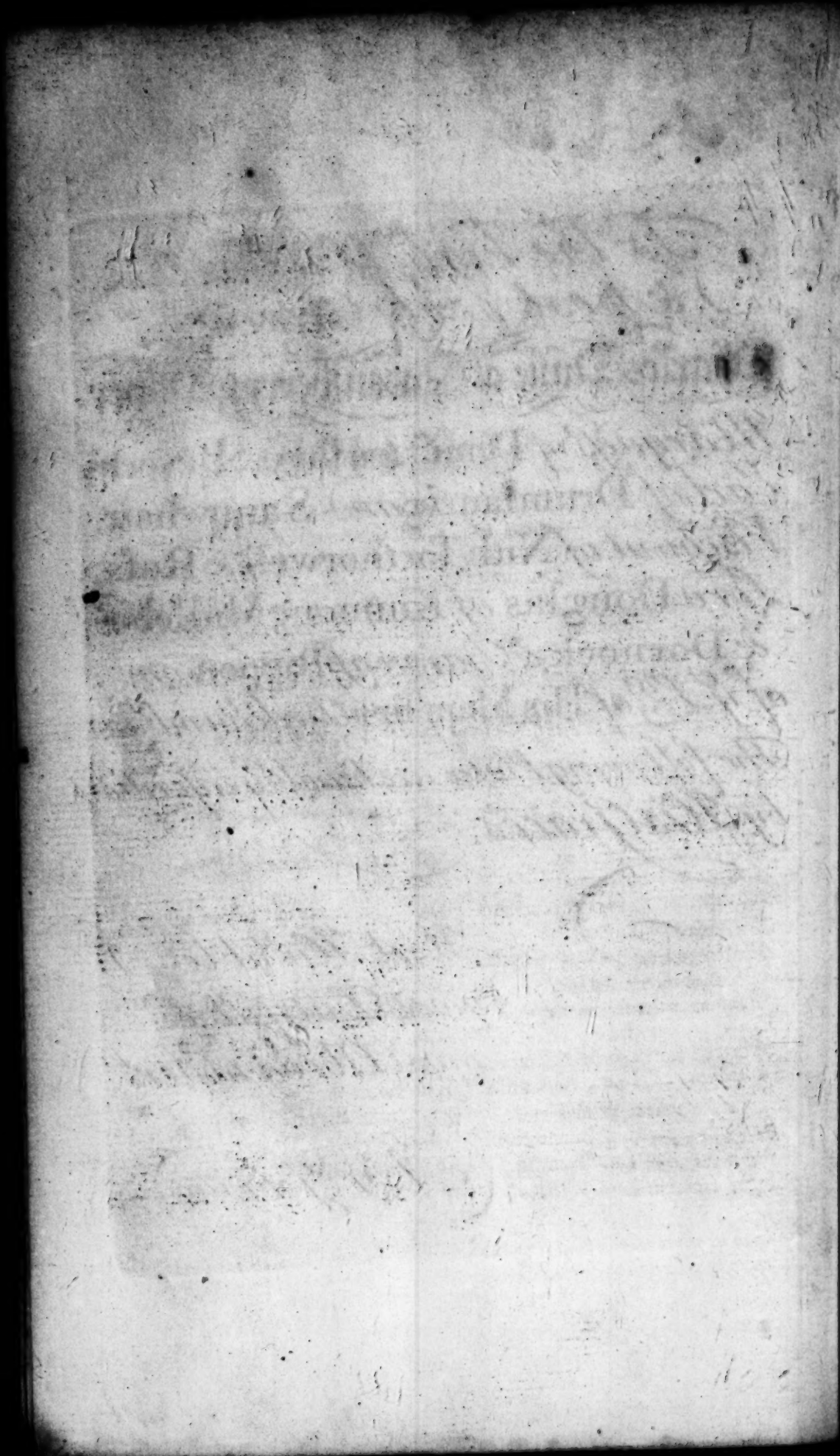
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Printed for A. JOHNSON Engraver in old Round Court in the Strand; J. SENEX at the Globe, R. GOSLING at the Middle Temple Gate, in Fleet-street; W. TAYLOR at the Ship in Pater-noster-Row; W. and J. INNES at the West End of St. Paul's; and J. OSBORN at the Oxford Arms in Lombard Street. MDCCLXXIV.

To the high Puissant
& most noble Prince
Charles Duke of Queensberry & Dover
Marquis of Dumfries-shire & Beverley
Earl of Drumlanrig and Sanquhair,
Viscount of Nith, Torthorwell & Ross,
Lord Douglas of Kinmont, Middlebie,
& Dornock, & Baron of Rippon, one
of 4th L^{ds} of His Majesties Bedchamb. &c.
The following Plates are humbly inscrib'd
by His Grace's

Most Humble
& most Dutiful &
most Obedient Ser.^t

Andr: Johnston



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A
CONCISE ESSAY
UPON THE
Nature, Rise, and Intent,
OF
ARMS and ARMORY.



S the first and chief Intent of this Book was to illustrate the Arms, Quarterings, and other congruous Marks and Tokens of our Nobility; so this introductory Essay is to render those Things more easily and effectually understood, by setting forth not only the Nature and Practice of Arms in general, but also such Rules and Observati-

A

ons

ons as may be necessary to attain a full Knowledge in the Science of Armory, or Arms.

By Arms then, the Subject of this Essay, I do not mean military Weapons or Habiliments, but certain Devices which the Ancients were accustomed to chase, depict, embroider, or otherways represent, upon their Shields, military Cassocks, and other Habiliments of War (properly call'd Arms;) whence by way of Figure call'd *Metonymia Subjecti*. The Names of those Arms became also a Denomination to these Marks or Devices plac'd thereupon, they being in general term'd Arms, and in particular, Shields, Sur-Coats, Coat-Armours, Coats of Arms, and the like: All which plainly imply, that their Rise was military, and from the Field.

The Occasion of their Rise was undoubtedly that Order which their Use produc'd; the Consequences of Confusion being generally Rule and Order; as Mens Sufferings naturally lesson them, to avoid all Inconveniences by which they have suffer'd. Thus entered National Ensigns, for the better Regulation of Armies, &c. and also, all manner of personal Distinctions in War, for the distinguishing of Chiefs, and considerable Commanders, being Devices on their Shields, &c. pointing out their Persons to those under their Command, and also distinguishing themselves one from another, which without some such Marks could not effectually be, their Persons being obscur'd by the Armours they wore, &c. And from these Intendments they gain'd the Names of *Insignia*, *Nota*, &c. with those Adjuncts, national or personal.

'Tis observable, that in these Assumptions the Ancients

cients for the most part, made Choice of Lions, Tigers, Dragons, and horrible Chimeras, like to that on *Turnus* his Helmet, so beautifully describ'd by *Virgil*; or else of such Animals, as Serpents, Foxes, Owls, &c. or such Figures, as might represent Sagacity, Cunning, or Stratagem, according to their own various Dispositions; thereby meaning, no doubt, to menace and terrify their Enemies, by setting forth their magnanimous and politick Qualities, together with their gallant Resolutions to atchieve Matters worthy Men engag'd for the Honour or Interest of their Prince and Country; and the Devices they chose to represent themselves. For, as 'tis certain that every Like adheres to its Like, so even in Cases of this Nature, Mankind is naturally delighted with Things or Animals like themselves, or whose predominate Dispositions or Qualities accord with their own: And from these, the alluding Qualities and Intendments of these antient Assumptions, have they been frequently term'd *Hieroglyphicks*, *Symbola*, and the like.

The late asserted Occasion of their Rise, may seem also to imply the Time too, seeing they began as it were with Order and Discipline.

I am no Stranger to the various Opinions of antient Writers of this and other Nations, concerning the Rise and Antiquity of Arms; some ascribing their beginning to the *Egyptians*, others to the *Israelites*; some to the Siege of *Troy*, some to *Charlemagne*, and others to the Irruption of the *Goths* and *Vandals*, with many more: All which I pass over as Opinions only; because, as I have already hinted, I take their Use, that is, the Use of Ensignment upon Shields, &c. to have

began with Order, and the Improvements therewith gradually to have increased: But this must be understood of those antient Assumptions only, which were better known to their Owners by Names referential to Ensigns, Marks, or Emblems, than Arms. For I would not be thought to insinuate, that though Arms, (as now understood,) arise partly from those antient Assumptions, that the Customs then, and now, as to their Use, bear any Relation beyond that of Distinguishing.

I have seen most Books of Note in this Faculty, upon which our late Writers have built, and perceiv'd Variety of Humours in their Authors, which I take to be owing chiefly to national Affectations and Customs. And I have observ'd too, that many of our late Writers have taken more Pains to misconstrue or continue some useless Notions of those more antient Writers, than to improve their Beauties, or digest their Writings to the Improvement of the Science in general. But what I most wonder at, is, an unreasonable Fondness which seems to flow in most of them to Antiquity; as if any commendable and useful Custom lost of its real Estimation and Efficacy, by so much as it wanted in Antiquity. I believe, I admire Honour and Arms as much as any Man, yet Reason and History shall sway me in Opinion.

There have not been wanting some who have assign'd Arms to *Noah* and his Sons, nay, even to *Adam*; so that we need not wonder when such-like tell us the *Israelites* at their Departure out of *Egypt* were very expert in their Use. These would draw their Origin from a Divine Appointment, and to that End
wrest

wrest the 49th Chapter of *Genesis*, wherein the Patriarch *Israel* blesteth his Sons under figurative Similes, which they make their Arms; as also the Text in the second of *Numbers*, which directs their general Rout, and from which they would insinuate, that Arms of Families were in Use among them: *By the Standard of his Father's House shall he pitch*, &c. But these Standards, with Submission to those fanciful Gentlemen, were only Ensigns distinguishing their Tribes, properly express'd their Houses, as they lay encamp'd by Divine Direction, and us'd only to that military End: Nor, in my humble Opinion, doth more appear from Mr. *Waterhouse's* * elaborate Version of the Text into its Original. Neither is it to be disputed, but that had not Omniscience it self been their Director, even the Custom and Order of their Neighbours would have taught them the same, such Ensigns being practis'd by the *Egyptians* at the Time of *Osyris* and *Isis*, more than four hundred Years before the *Israelites* Departure out of *Egypt*: As to the Figures said to be born thereupon, see *Guillim* and *Borhaus*.

Such as would fetch this Custom from *Troy*, have been as busy with the *Classicks*, by collecting the ornamental Distinctions of *Hector*, *Agamemnon*, *Achilles*, *Ajax*, *Ulysses*, and others; which said Ornaments, if not merely Graces in the Poems, the greater to express their Heroes, do at most but argue personal Marks, taken and assum'd to distinguish their Persons; for we find in the same Authors, *Agamemnon* hath

* Defence of Arms and Armory.

sometimes a Lion, sometimes a Lion's Head, at another Time a Gorgon, and sometimes a Dragon; *Achilles* also hath sometimes a Lion, and sometimes a Representation of the Heavens and the Earth, &c. together with many such like alternate Assumptions: All which plainly imply, that those Assumptions were not Marks of Descent as Arms are, nor assum'd to any such Purposes; yet have many insinuated the contrary, building upon the Shield of *Aventinus*, who in *Virgil* is said to carry the Serpent *Hydra* slain, and assum'd by his Ancestor *Hercules*, who in some other Places is also represented by the *Nemean Lion*, &c.

Thus have many Passages been wrested out of *Homer*, *Euripides*, *Pindar*, *Virgil*, and others, to insinuate a Custom unknown, even to those very Authors themselves, occasioned, as I conceive, by a too great Fondness to Antiquity, and the equivocal Signification of the Word Arms; which being to be understood many Ways, such have inconsiderately taken in their own Sense, as though that notable Contest for the Arms of *Achilles* was to be understood (as we now say) for the Arms of his Family, or his distinguishing Mark. I am persuaded, the learned Readers of *Homer* understand him otherwise, and that the Dispute was for his real Armour, &c. and that whenever the Word Arms is made use of by him, or other antient Writers, in military Narratives, 'tis intended to express naturally Arms, such as Armour, Weapons, &c. and not their Ornaments.

There are others also who imagine, that Arms owe their Being to the Light of Nature; among whom was

was Mr. *Bolton* *. His grand Argument is, That whatsoever is found to be universally practis'd in all Nations, whether barbarous or civil, must undoubtedly claim a Foundation in Nature: Whence he justly concludes, that Ennoblishment by external Marks must be so, as well as Brandings of Infamy or Dishonour. He thence proceeds to traverse, not only the more known and polite Part of the Globe, but also the new discovered World of *America*, for Instances, of the general and universal Use of Figures upon Shields, or Arms, (as he Terms those antient Assumptions.) But with Submission to that Gentleman, his Conclusion, or what he would by his Argument insinuate, is not only irregular; but unjust; for, first, though it must be allowed, that the Notion of Ensignment is natural, and that as is evident in all Histories, whether sacred or prophane, outward Marks of Honour and Esteem were ever allowed, (and as it were naturally dispens'd to Men of high Merit equally, with Brandings of Dishonour and Infamy to the Base; yet doth it no Way appear, that these antient Assumptions, which he would by all Means have us term Arms, were the Means by which such Merit was known and distinguish'd: Nay I will venture to affirm, that all acquainted with the Customs of the Ancients, whether foreign or domestick, know the contrary; and that though such Merit has been ever distinguish'd, yet the Means by which the same has been done, have been as various almost as the se-

* Elements of Armory.

veral Countries in which it has been shewn. Besides, the Notion of distinguishing Men of Merit, or those of counter Characters, cannot be more natural than the Study of martial Discipline and Order, Man's Welfare, especially in War, so obviously depending on it: Nor do I believe, there was ever a People so barbarous as did not apply thereto. Why then should we wonder to find Ensigns, or Marks of Distinction among the *Americans*, who even, when discover'd, were under a Form of Government and Rule? No *Americans* could be more rude and unpolish'd than the antient Inhabitants of this Isle are said to have been, yet were they far from a disorderly Rout, if we may Credit the Great *Cesar* himself, who in such Case would never have thought them terrible in Battle. From hence then I would infer, that with Order, among these *Americans*, might begin, as among others, such military and personal Ensigns or Distinctions, which might also now and then be continued by a Descendant or two, as the said Mr. *Bolton* * mentions of the *Inguas*, Kings of *Peru*, whose Arms, saith he, were three Snakes. This Device I take to be like our national Ensigns, and on that Account more than ordinarily continued, and not any personal Distinction. But be that as it will, 'tis not unlikely, but now and then Father and Son might in many Places approve the same Choice, when the common Custom of the Country was otherwise; however they could not be what he would insinuate, I mean Arms, as now under-

* Out of *Josephus Acosta*.

stood, the Natives, (excepting such Colonies as have settled from *Europe*,) being to this Hour entire Strangers thereto.

Some fancy Arms, or Devices of that Kind, hereditary in the *Roman* Common-Wealth on the same Account, because now and then some personal Device happened to be continued; thus they instance the Family of *Corvini* out of *Silius Italicus*,

*Corvinus Phœbea sedet cui casside fulva,
Ostentans ales proavita Insignia pugnae.*

But still this Raven was only a figurative Representation of a Combat of his Ancestor, who during the Action, had a Raven perch'd upon his Helmet to second his Assaults, on which Account he took the Name of *Corvinus*, and not as Arms of Descent; for then would the Author rather have us'd *Insigne Proavorum*, or the like. Nor can this their weak Opinion be back'd by what they alledge out of *Suetonius*, viz. *Caligula vetera familiarum Insignia, Nobilissimo cuique ademit, Torquato Torquem, Cincinnato Crinem, & Pompeio stirpis antiquæ magni Cognomen*: For this shews only, that *Caligula* envying the particular Honour of those Persons, order'd that the Chain which *Torquatus* had taken from an eminent *Gaul*, and the Tuft of Hair which *Cincinnatus* had gotten of an Enemy, should be taken from their Statues, and that the Epithet, Great, in *Pompey's* Inscription, should be defac'd; which Title of Great, together with the Collar and Hair, were not Honours descendable to the Issue; otherwise the Author would have said, the
Emperor

Emperor caus'd the Chain to be taken from the *Torquati*, and the Tuft from the *Cincinnati*, thereby implying the Families, and not simply from *Torquatus* and *Cincinnatus*. But 'twas the Statues which were *Jus imaginum*, the Right of their noble Descent, of which he could not deprive them without sufficient Cause, &c. like our Arms: And those honourable Trophies related only to particular Actions of those Defuncts, displeasing to his own envious Temper.

But to render it yet more clear, that the *Romans* were Strangers to our modern Customs in this Particular, it may not be amiss to touch lightly on their own. There never was a People more jealous of their Glory than they, more cautious how they confer'd Honours, or more just that Way in Return for publick Services than they. The many and various honourable Rewards they had for personal Merit, wittily adapted to its several Kinds, would open a large Field; but as that is not my Subject at present, I shall wave it, to consider what may be more pertinent. The antient People of *Rome* were generally divided into three Sorts, as that of *Nobiles*, *Novi*, and *Ignobiles*: The former being, as we term, Gentlemen of Blood, or Persons of noble and great Extraction; having *Jus imaginum* (like to our Right to Arms, but with more Justice observ'd.) This Right was the making and keeping of certain Statues or Effigies of their Ancestors, which, as *Polybius* observes, were often painted to represent them the better, and dress'd in their Robes, &c. according to their several Qualities in the State, and ornamented with their several Trophies; which Right was allow'd to none but those
whose

whose Ancestors, or themselves, had done some singular Service to the Publick, or born and acted with Honour, in some considerable Office, as Curule, Ædile, Censor, Prætor, or Consul. Nor (so exact were they) was any one whose Merit had entitled him to his own Statue, without being able to produce those of his Ancestors, deem'd otherwise than *Novus*, or a new Gentleman, like to the first of a Family with us who obtains Arms; only with this Distinction, that among them, such his real Merit was oblig'd to be conspicuous; whereas, among us, 'tis too often found, that an Estate is Qualification sufficient, though attain'd probably by Means little honestier than a *South-Sea* Scheme. 'Twas the equitable Disposal of Honours in that illustrious State that supported them therein, and drew the Reverence and Esteem of the Ignobles, or inferior Part. 'Twas this which fired their brave Youth to gallant Emulations, and carried their Conquests throughout the then known World. But the World in general seems now degenerated from what it then was, and its Maxims quite different. A gilded Chariot and a Pension will do more than a publick Statue. Great Possessions are the common Pursuit; on them modern Honours too much attend, and Nobility is now a-days mostly distinguished by the Grandeur of its Equipage. But to return.

The third and last mentioned Division of the *Romans* was unto those call'd Ignobles. Under this Head were understood, not only the *Plebes*, or common People, but even the wealthy Citizens, &c. in short, all who had not so deserv'd of the State as to become
Novus,

Novus, according to my former Definition of the Word.

Thus I have given you a small Sketch of the *Roman* Customs, the better to convince the fanciful, that what we understand by Arms they were Strangers to; and that the *Romans* did express their several Intendments by quite different Means, as well witnesseth *Budens*, *Lipsius*, and other approved Writers.

But to come yet nearer to my general Intention, I shall consider the real Rise of Arms according to their modern Acceptation and Use, and that in an Order as progressive as I can, having done with those antient Devices, taken and assum'd by military Men only for Order and Distinction sake; which, as I before said, have no other relation to Arms, nor in those Days were ever understood by such Name or Denomination.

I am not of Opinion, that the antient *Goths* and *Vandals* understood Arms as we use them, so as to direct the Practice thereof to other Nations; yet if Consideration be had, that upon the Subversion of the *Roman* Empire by them, most of whose glorious and noble Customs were sunk, particularly such as related to Honour and Nobility; nay, even Art and Science it self seem'd to sleep, as is generally the Case during the tragical Transactions of such great Vicissitudes. I say, if these Things are duly considered, these rude Conquerors may be said so far to give Birth to this modern Method of ennobling, as that they destroy'd and entirely abolish'd the former; by which Posterity
in

in more settled Times were under a Necessity of inventing some new Distinctions. For as Wars, and their attending Distractions, by the Doubts and Fears they hourly present, wholly employ (particularly) the greatest, to defend their Persons and Possessions, so Peace and Security give them Opportunities to exert their Grandeur in magnificent Appearances, and distinguishing Signs of their high Birth and Qualities.

Thus the Peace of *Europe* becoming more settled, its Princes and great Personages began to shew themselves in noble and princely Exercises; whence began Tournaments, Justings, Tiltings, Hastiludes, and the like, which were solemn Meetings of Nobility and Gentlemen at great Festivals, such as Births, and Marriages of Princes, and the like; introduc'd no doubt from, and in lieu of, the old *Roman* Games: Here Nobles exercised their Manhood and Skill in the usual Weapons of the Age. Where these military Exercises began is a Doubt, whether in *Germany* or *France*; however, 'tis generally thought to be about the beginning of the tenth Century, and allowed to have been practised all over *Europe*. At these Tournaments, &c. the Justers appeared compleatly arm'd, having their several Badges or Devices on their Shields, &c. to distinguish their Persons: And here, I humbly conceive, Arms became first taken Notice of. I know many are of Opinion, that Arms were in Use long before, and to this End alledge, that one, and a chief Article in the Institution of these Justs, was, that no one should be admitted but Gentlemen well born, and such as carried the Arms of their Ancestors. To this I answer,

I answer, that these Tournaments had their gradual Rise as well as Arms, and that the Regulations since made by succeeding Princes concerning them, give us but little Light into the Rules first observ'd. That none but Persons well born were ever admitted must be allowed; but how those Persons were distinguished is not clear: Had they alledg'd such only as bore Arms, there might be more Colour to believe them; Arms in those Days, probably having obtained their Name, which is as much as could be; but that they were then born as Marks of Descent I absolutely deny, and will venture to prove, that some Centuries after the Institution of these Sports, Persons of the first Rank in most Nations have varied still the Father from the Son, just as Accident or Humour inclined them.

What I take to be the principal Means of the hereditary Use of Arms was the holy War; because therein did the Nobility and Gentry of all Nations in *Christendom* engage themselves, and in their Expeditions performed many memorable Achievements. Every Man almost knows the coercive Power of Zeal, and may allow there needs no greater Spur to the Courage of a Zealot, than the Danger of his Religion. As this occasioned many brave and noble Actions, so those drew the Eyes and Respect of all *Christendom* upon the Actors, whence the Ensigns and other distinguishing Marks taken and us'd in those Expeditions became popular, and every where revered, not only by their Assumers, but by all *Christendom*, as the Ensigns under which their Religion and Liberties had been defended, &c. This not only induced

duced their Assumers to continue such their Devices, but their Issues who gloried in nothing more than being Descendants of those who had so gallantly distinguished themselves in the common Cause of God and Religion. And as this continued the Bearings and Assumptions of those Heroes, to shew their several Descendants throughout *Christendom*, so their Examples led the Issues of other Nobles, &c. to the like Practice, until Time, which ripens all Things, improv'd this their hereditary Use into a common and general Custom; for even that was not suddenly effected any where, the *Quincies*, Earls of *Leicester*, and others of the highest Rank, both here and abroad, still sometimes varying the Son from the Father's Device; as Mr. *Camden* particularly noteth in his Remains; and *Petre Pitben*, who in like manner ascribes the beginning of this hereditary Custom in *France*.

Asto what *Chassaneus*, *Favin*, and other Writers of Note mention, concerning the Esteem Arms met with in the Reign of *Charlemaign* of *France*, of his regulating the Use of Arms, and giving Arms to Pope *Leo* the Third, which are said to be seen on the Remains of the antient Refectory of *St. John de Lateran* as fair Arms, being six Roses in Orle; and of his doing the like by the *Frizelanders* and *Scots* for their Services, I cannot but say is of great Weight; but then I believe there may be as great a Misunderstanding in their Readers, for Arms, as I said just now, when speaking of Tournaments, might have gained their Name, and a general Respect; nay, they might be used by the *French* even under Regulations, among those of highest Rank, but not commonly, nor as
Marks

Marks of Descent; nor did their Use then imply many other Intendments, of which for some Centuries they have been visible and plain Documents.

I have heard also, that about King *Arthur's* Time, or that of *Pharamond*, Metals, Colours, and Furrs, became in Use something after the modern Manner; all which too might be, for the more effectually differencing the Mark or Arms of one Noble from those of another, in Assumptions of like Figures; and the improving of this, and some other such like Customs, might be part of those Regulations ascrib'd to King *Charles* the Great as aforesaid: And most certain it is, that these Regulations are owing to the Politeness of the *French*, because, not we only, but all *Europe*, are indebted to them for the Terms of the Science.

That Arms were in Being, and in great Esteem, though not hereditary, before those Croisades, is deducible, not only from the before cited Authors, and others, but even from the Practice of those military Pilgrims; by which it is apparent, their Intendments were not only to distinguish their Persons, but also to express their pious Undertakings, &c. on which Account many drop'd their former Devices, and took new Arms referential to their Undertaking. *Menessrier*, a learned Jesuit of *France*, tells us, there is yet extant a Collection of the Arms of those who went to that Service by the Advice of *Claremont*, who lived under Pope *Urban* the Second. And *Monfieur Favin*, in his Theatre of Honour, gives us a particular List of those great Persons, who chang'd their Bearings on that Account; among whom was the Duke of *Lorrain*, who before the taking of *Jerusalem*

lem bore an Hart, Gules; but afterwards, three Alterations upon a Bend, which still remain as the modern Arms of that Dutchy. Thus *Baldwin* of *Cologne*, whose Arms before were paly of six, Argent and Sable, chang'd them for a Gonfannon of three Pendants, Gules, fring'd, Or, (being the Ensign of the Church) upon being made Gonfalonier, or Standard-Bearer. And thus the Count of *Tbolouse*, upon his being made Prince of *Antioch*, left his former Bearing, which was Gules, a Ram, Argent, armed; Or, and took a Cross Clechée and Pomettée, Or. The same doth Mr. *Camden*, in his Remains, inform us of several of our own Nobility; particularly, *inter alios*, *Beauchamp* Earl of *Warwick*, who upon Account of his so taking upon him the Cross, (which was then the Phrase) added to his former Coat, viz. Gules, a Fess, Or, six Croslets of the same. The like doth Sir *George Mackenzie* and Mr. *Nisbet* inform us of the Scots: And at this Port entred that great Variety of Forms in Crosses, which we find in armorial Bearings, to distinguish one Man's from another's. *Upton* hath set down about thirty different, and yet seems at a Loss, and I believe thirty more might be added; however, this argues a great Regulation and general Esteem, in that each look'd upon his Bearing as his pecaliar Right, and what no other ought to infringe or usurp more than his Name, or other part of his Property; nor on the least insult without incurring severe Resentments. This was very apparent in the Imprisonment of our King *Richard* the Second, and the hundred thousand Pound paid for his Ransom, being seiz'd by the Duke of *Austria* upon his Return from the Holy Land; for

that he had order'd the said Duke's Banner to be struck down from the Wall to give Place to his own, and by which Means it was trod under Foot.

Thus by these Services Arms began to ripen and increase; for not only Crosses, but also great Variety of other Figures, such as Bezants, Alterions, Martlets, Escallop Shells, Waterbougets, Piles, and their Like, became very numerous: And, together with the then customary Blazons and Rules concerning their Use, were dispersed throughout *Christendom*, upon the Return of those Nobles to their several Countreies, where being imitated by their Countrymen, Time soon wrought the Practice into a general and common Custom; which also rendred, that the general and fundamental Laws of Arms, together with the many Rules of Blazon, are for the most part the same in all Nations, some few latter Affectations excepted, in which, I think, we and the *Germans* do most abound. Neither were Arms at this Time restrained only to Soldiers, for being now generally become Testers of Descents, they were taken and us'd by all Descendants, even the Clergy and Ladies too. But in such Cases they ought to be term'd only Ensigns, or Marks of their Descents, and not Arms, they in no Case using them as such, or to their Ends as understood under that Denomination: Therefore in the Blazon of such Bearings, I do not think it commendable to use the Words Field or Shield; but rather to begin with the Tincture of the Continent, and then proceed to the Charge. But to return.

I know some of our Heralds have been very unwilling to allow, that the *French, Germans, Scots, &c.* may

may boast an elder Date of regular Accounts concerning Pedigrees, and this gentilitial or hereditary Use of Arms than we; but such Gentlemen might have less cause of Displeasure at those who do, did they but consider how much, and how long, this Land stood expos'd to the Assaults of Foreigners, and the great Havock which must naturally have ensu'd, not only them, but also those more destructive and unnatural Wars raging in our own Bowels; I mean the bloody Disputes between the Houses of *York* and *Lincolncaster*, and other Civil Wars, from the Fury of which, so alternately exercis'd (in my Opinion) it is rather a Wonder that any Thing escap'd; and I believe, the Figure our Ancestors made in the World, even under those Shoeks, must alone convince all too well of their Bravery, Politeness, and Grandeur, to doubt, but that in Practice we were as forward as others our Neighbours, though in our Accounts deficient. Hence is it that our best Writers do agree, that we ought not to be over confident in Matters of Pedigrees and Arms much above four hundred Years; nay, the learned Sir *Henry Spelman* makes it a Doubt, whether we should venture so far; but I shall cease this Discourse, as offensive to many, who value themselves too much upon genealogical Rolls of more than double that Date.

Having thus, with as much Brevity as I could, gone through the original and progressive Rise of Arms in general, and therein been naturally led to touch, in some Measure, upon the changing of Arms, and the Rise of particular Bearings, I shall now proceed to continue this Practice of the Ancients, and from thence

shew the many and various Changes to which these Tokens call'd Arms have been subject, together with their several Intendments thereupon.

The common and ordinary Causes for the Change of Arms, *Menestrier* reckons to be six, viz. Succession to Sovereignities, Religion, some signal Accidents or Events, Alteration of Estate or Condition to better or worse, the taking or changing of Over-Lords or Superiors, and Adoption. As to the first, we need go no farther than *Scotland*, where is an Instance in the illustrious Family of the *Stewarts*, who ascending the Throne of that Realm, quitted their paternal Coat for the Imperial Ensign; which (as may be said) cannot in a strict Sense be properly call'd Arms, but rather Ensigns of Royal or Publick Authority. From this Reason of Change arise that Distinction of Arms of Dominions, as whether by Succession, Election, Pretention, or Conquest.

The second Cause of Change, viz. Religion I have in a great Measure exemplified in my late Discourse upon the Holy War, therefore shall add no more; but that as our Author informs us, many Prelates, out of Humility and Piety, left their own Arms, and took new Devices compos'd of religious Emblems, such as Crosses, Mitres, Keys, Crosiers, Cyphers of the holy Name of Jesus, Figures of the holy Mother, titular Saints, &c. many of which becoming afterwards Arms of Ecclesiastical Offices, have in latter Times been marshall'd with the paternal ones of the Incumbents, as I have largely made appear from my Additions to *Guillim's* last Section. As the Humours of Countries have been particular in their Choices, so
Italy,

Italy, Spain, and Portugal, are remarkable for these Devices; having (the two latter especially) many religious Characters, such as *Ave Maria's*, and other religious Characters in their paternal Arms, occasioned, I suppose, from their continued Wars with the *Moors*, from whom they were proper Distinctions.

The third asserted Cause of the Change of Arms, are certain and signal Accidents or Events. Of these I have met many, to which I give very little Credit. *Camden*, in his Remains, gives us several; particularly, *Vere's* shooting Star; the Story of the Belt for the Original of *Beauchamp's* Fess, also that of *Lorrain's* three Alerions upon a Bend, already mentioned, which they tell you was occasioned by his shooting at once three of those Birds from off the Tower of *Jerusalem*, upon the Direction of a prophetick Person, who had thereupon prophesied his Success, which accordingly happened; though, in my humble Opinion, the true Cause was, only because Alerion is an Anagram to *Lorrain*, an old way of Writing, and a Bearing as much in Use at that Service, as Rebus's, and the like, were common in their Inventions: Of which hereafter.

Goltz the *French* Herald is grossly tax'd with Forgeries of this Kind, particularly in his Origin of the Arms of *Grammont*. And I remember a like Story of the *Padilla's* in *Spain*, who are said to have received both their Names and Arms from their defending a Pass against the *Moors* with the Peel of an Oven, which *Padilla* in *Spanish* signifies: But *Vargas* laughs at this Original, and tells us, that the Name being elder, the Coat was compos'd to allude thereto, after

the Example of the Arms of *Castile* and *Leon*; a Custom at that Time very prevalent among the *Spaniards*; and, as I may add, among other Nations too, as hereafter will appear. He adds too, that he had observed many of their antient Nobility were to blame in this Point; for not having like Reasons for their Arms, with many whose brave Actions against the *Moors* had gained them Atchievements allusive thereto, they began to frame these Fictions, that they might appear alike considerable: And I cannot but fancy, some very considerable Families among our Brethren the *Scots*, have been more than a little inventive that Way; but I shall leave these kind of Originations to be judged at Discretion. As to such fortunate Events, as under Providence, may be supposed the Effects of true Fortitude and Loyalty, they have frequently sunk old Arms, for such new ones as might suitably express such Events and Merit, or at least subjected them to such Alterations or Additions as might effect the same constituting Arms of general and special Concession; by which I mean new Grants of Arms, or Augmentations to old Arms, of which I have more fully treated in my Improvements upon *Guillim*.

The fourth Cause of the Change of Arms laid down by our Author, is the Alteration of Estate or Condition to better or worse, of which he gives several Instances out of *Italy* and *Germany*, during the Wars of the *Guelphs* and *Gibbelines*; but these, and what else may be produced to that End, being so relative to the first and ensuing Cause, I omit them.

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The fifth Cause asserted, is the taking or changing of Over-Lords and Superiors, which will be found one of the most considerable, as having not only given Arms to Communities, and to many *Nobiles Majores*, but to unknown Numbers of the *Nobiles Minores*, or private Gentry, in most Kingdoms, particularly those of *Great Britain*. *Menestrier* gives as Instance for the former, *inter alios*, the Arms, or rather Device of *Avignon*; which being Argent, a Falcon, Proper, till subject to the Pope, they became then chang'd for the Pontifical Keys.

But as my Intent at this Time in these antient Practices is to consider rather Arms of Families than other Ensigns, I will hasten to my Purpose, and begin with those of my own Country.

All Men acquainted with History, know, that after the Conquest the Lands of *England* were in the Hands of the Conqueror and his Issue, and such of his particular Followers and Friends as he had granted them to by Tenures, to serve him and them during their Wars in their Persons, and with their several Tenants, Vassals, and Dependants. Hence grew the Distinction of Knight, Esquire, Yeoman, &c. which antiently were Names of Service, the former holding their Lands by the antient Tenure of Knights Service, and the Esquire having his Name in Regard of his Attendance on the Body of some noble Peer, or great Person, in quality of Armour-Bearer, or the like, whence they were term'd *Armigeri* and *Scutiferi*, and not as the mistaken Notion is, because they bore Arms in their own Right. Now these great Men granted part of these their Tenures to other Per-

sons ally'd to them, either in Blood, Favour, or Affection, either upon like Terms, to hold as free of them as they did of the Crown, or else such others as they thought meet, giving them, or allowing them to take at the same time Coat-Armours, which were frequently Parts of their own, with various Differences and Distinctions. So thus by the Bounty of the greater, rise the lesser Nobility or Gentry: Thus as the Earl of *Chester* bore Garbs, many Gentlemen, his Dependants or Clients of that County bore Wheat Sheafs: And whereas the old Earl of *Warwick* bore Checquy, Or, and Azure, a Chevron, Ermine, many thereabouts took Checquy and Ermine in different manners. In *Leicestershire*, and the Countries confining, diverse bore Cinquefoiles, alluding to the Arms of the antient Earls of *Leicester*, which were Gules, a Cinquefoile, Ermine. In *Cumberland*, where the old Barons of *Kendal* were seated, and its Confines, many took their very Bearing in different Colours, and with different Charges on the Canton: The said Barons Arms being Argent, two Bars and a Canton, Gules, on the latter a Lion passant, Or. Thus in like manner did many Families in *Norfolk* rise from the noble Houses of *Vere*, *Strange*, *Ufford*, &c. and the same might be said of most Counties in the Kingdom.

About this Time, saith Mr. *Camden*, began the Distinction betwixt Gentlemen of Coat-Armour, and Gentlemen of Blood, and he who bore Arms by Descent from his Grandfather, was to all Purposes held a Gentleman of Blood.

The Scots, as Sir *George Mackenzie* and Mr. *Nisbet* inform us, had the same Practice; as for instance, in
and

and about *Annandale*, the Seat of the old Lords of *Annan*, who carried as Arms a Saltire and Chief, many took like Figures in different Tinctures, and accompanied with others, particularly, the *Bruces*, *Murrays*, *Johnstons*, *Jardins*, *Kilpatrick's*, and several others. In *Douglassdale*, and other Countries possessed by the *Douglasses*, many bore Stars part of their Arms: And in *Fife-shire*, Lions were frequently born in regard to the *Mackduffs*, Earls and Over-Lords of *Fife*. In *Angus* also, he tells us, was the like Figure continued, on Account of those antient Earls. He farther tells us, that in the Shires where the *Stewarts* of old were landed, and had Interest, many Families bore Checquy, as the Lords *Ross* and *Semple*, *Houston* of that *Ilk*, *Brisben* of *Bishoptown*, *Hall* of *Fulbar*, *Fleming* of *Barachon*, *Shaw* of *Bargaran*, and those of the Name of *Spruel*, with several others seated in the Shire of *Renfrew*, and other Countries belonging to that illustrious House.

The same Custom, in a manner, was also in *Italy* and *Spain*, according to *Menestrier*; he particularly instances the four principal Families in *Plaisans*, viz. *Angui*, *Fontana*, *Landi*, and *Scoti*, whose Arms were carried by their Clients and Vassals, only with this Difference, that they were marshall'd or composed with their own paternal Coats; of which manner of bearing Arms I have treated more largely in my Additions to *Guillim* in his last Section, under the Head Marshalling, &c. wherefore I shall conclude these Observations with telling you, that Assumptions of this Nature have been termed Arms of Patronage, Gratitude, and Affection.

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The sixth and last Cause which *Menestrier* sets down as common, for the changing or altering of Arms is Adoption, which is an Act whereby one, or many, are brought into a Family; as the Lawyers say, *Actus legitimus per quem quis in alienam recipitur familiam*: Invented for the Comfort of such as had no Issue to continue their Names, &c. to Posterity. Thus *William* Lord *Percie* having only a Daughter, adopted his Son in Law *Jogelin de Lavania*, and enjoined him to disuse his own Name and Arms, and take upon him the Name and Arms of *Percie*; which he accordingly did till *Marshalling* came in Mode, when both Coats were quartered together. And again, *Henry Percie*, Earl of *Northumberland*, marrying for his second Wife the Lady *Lucy*, with whom he had a very great Estate, but no Issue, did with the said Lady's Consent give the said Estate to his Son *Henry Percie* by a former Marriage, surnamed *Hotspur*, upon Condition, that he and his Heirs marshalled the Arms of the said Lady with those of *Percie*, which was accordingly observed. The same Practice hath been frequent in *Scotland*, as appears by many Instances given by that elaborate Gentleman *Mr. Nisbet*, in his Essay on the antient and modern Use of Armories; who lays down the following Observations.

“ Lawyers, saith he, tells us, that when the Adopt-
 “ ed as well as the Adopter is noble, he loseth no-
 “ thing of his native Nobility; *quia Dignitas per A-*
 “ *doptionem acquiritur vel augetur non minuitur*; nei-
 “ ther if the Adopter be ignoble, shall the Person a-
 “ dopted, if noble, lose the Nobility of his Birth; for
 “ *Adoptio*

" *Adoptio mutat Gentem non Genus* : But this is no
 " way relative to Arms.

Sir George Mackenzie, in his Science of Heraldry, tells us, " That the most learned Antiquaries and
 " Lawyers do conclude, that when a Person leaves
 " his Estate to another, upon Condition that he shall
 " bear the Disposer's Name and Arms, he who is to
 " succeed, is not by Condition obliged to lay aside his
 " own Name and Arms, but may marshal them with
 " those of the Disposer, except he shall in the Institution, particularly prohibit the bearing of any Arms
 " besides his own.

But here may arise another Question, *i. e.* When a Person noble adopts an ignoble one, whether the latter doth become noble by such Adoption? *Hopingius* (saith Mr. Nisbet) *de Jure Insignium*, Cap. 7. is for the affirmative; but then (adds he) generally all Lawyers are for the negative; and tell us, *Nobilem ex ignobili adoptio non facit*; and that the ignoble adopted has no Right by that Adoption to the Arms of the noble Adopter, though he may enjoy his Estate: And the Reason, as I may add, is, because though his Estate, like Goods or Chattels, may be alienable, yet Arms being by common Custom and Royal Decrees become the Ensigns of Nobility, and Dignity cannot; for as no Man may arrogate to himself any Dignity, so neither can he dispoſe any of which he was posselt without the King's Consent, whose Property alone, as the Fountain of all Honours, it is to nobilitate; which such Donations, if allowed, would effect and encroach on the prime Prerogative of a Crown. Of this Opinion

nion is Sir *John Ferne*, who regrets such Successions, of which he says he had observed several in *England*. His Rules are much the same as delivered, save with this Addition, that if the Adopter be of greater Blood than the Adopted, his Arms shall ever have Precedence.

But to adjust all Disputes arising upon Donations of this Nature, the Custom of *England* now is, and for some Time past hath been, for Persons so adopted or enjoined, to apply to his Majesty for his special Warrant, to empower them to fulfill the Will and Orders of the Disponers, or to the Parliament for an Act to that Effect; of both which we have lately had Instances.

Having now gone through Monsieur *Meneftrier's* six asserted common Causes for the altering and changing of Arms, I shall add to them four more, viz. Honourable Feus, or Fiefs, Great Offices, Adherence to Parties, and the Names of Families.

As to the first, 'tis observable, that when the Antients by Match, Descent, or otherwise, became possessed of any considerable Estate to which was annexed any Honour or Dignity therewith also descendable, they frequently dropped their own paternal Bearing, and carried that of the Honour or Dignity which they received, till the more regular Practice of Marshalling found Birth; at which Time indeed they became quartered with the paternal ones, and generally, in the first Place, in regard of their Dignity; which Custom has been of great Vogue in *Scotland*, as Mr. *Nisbet* makes clear by numerous Instances. As to the second, I mean great Offices, I shall mention only the antient
Fitz-

Fitz-Walters, who being made Lords *Butlers* of *Ireland*, took upon them the Name of *Butler*, and drop'd their old Coat of Or, a Chief indented, Azure, for that of the three covered Cups, alluding to their Designation and Office; which they carried entire and single, till after Customs taught them to marshal the same with their paternal Coat. And for the third, *viz.* Inclination to Parties, *Italy* and *Germany* afford numerous Instances during the Disputes of the *Guelphs* and *Gibbelines*; as doth also the Wars of the Houses of *Tork* and *Lancaster*, whose white and red Roses, so frequently to be met in our *English* Arms, were often taken to declare the Parties whose Interest they espoused.

I come now to my fourth and last Occasion, of the taking or altering of Arms; I mean Names of Families, and this I take to be full as considerable as any yet mentioned; for they see but short who fancy them novel, and should read more who reckon them of little Esteem. The Arms of *Castile* and *Leon* being allusive, many *Grandeess* and others of *Spain* took Arms of the like Nature; but whether the Example of *Spain* might Influence such Practice in other Nations, I will not determine.

Such as would argue against these kind of Bearings which the *French* term speaking ones, *Armes parlantes*, and the *English* and *Scots* canting Arms or Rebus's, make use of the Antiquity of Arms before Surnames, and thence conclude, that where Arms and Names thus accord, the Surnames were taken from the Arms, and not the Arms from the Names. To this I answer, that could not be the Case in the forecited Instance

Instance of those of *Castile* and *Leon*, nor in such as complimented that Court by an Imitation. And besides, as Names have been ever in all Nations conformable to the Nature of Accidents, and have been given and taken upon various Emergencies long before hereditary Surnames became of Use, why might not Arms be conformable to them, and be made referential to such Accidents, Events, or Qualities as first occasioned them; and so be continued together in an hereditary manner agreeable to this latter Mode? I see no Cause; depend upon it, many Persons well approving their Names and their Occasions, suited their armorial Bearings thereto. Besides, if it were not so, why are Devices of this Kind called Speaking Arms, Canting Arms, Rebus's, or the like? These Epithets would otherwise better have suited their Names, as the latest Assumptions: Wherefore, taking this Matter for granted, I will proceed to some few Examples. *Hugh Lupus*, or *de Lup*, the great and first Earl of Chester, bore for his Arms, Azure, a Wolf's Head erased, Argent; and *Roger Malmain*, a Baron of the same Date, Azure, three sinister or left Hands, Argent. 'Tis not amiss to observe, that the Reference of Arms to Names is discernable many Ways; sometimes do they directly express the Name, as *Salmon*, three Salmon; *Turbet*, three Turbets; *Trevet*, three Treverts; *Bernard*, a Bear, and the like; sometimes more obscurely, and in another Dialect, as the two first Instances, *Ursine* a Bear, *Arundel*, six Swallows from *Hirundellus*; sometimes the initial Letters only are used, as *Tost*, three Text T's *T*, and the like; *Sweeting*, three Violins; *Stourton*, six Fountains or Rivers;

Rivers; and *Wallop*, a Bend Wavy, representing the River *Wallop*, from whence this Family had its Name, as the other had from the River *Stour*; with numerous other Instances which might be brought; but for those I refer you to my Introduction to *Guillim's* Display, and conclude my Discourse upon the various Causes or Occasions of particular Bearings.

Having treated, as I think, sufficiently of the Rise and Progress of Arms in general, and of the sundry Figures which compose them, I shall now proceed to a more close Definition, and the Ends to which we at this Day use them.

Arms then, from what has been said, may be defined hereditary Marks of Honour and Descent, composed of certain Tinctures and Figures, either assumed, or else granted by Sovereigns, to distinguish Difference, and illustrate Persons, Families, and Communities.

When voluntary Assumptions became restrained by Regal Authority, is what I would gladly be informed of. I believe 'twas in some Countries sooner than in others, according as they improved in the Practice of Arms. This manner of Choice was long a Custom among the better Sort in *England*, as was also the giving and granting of Arms from one Person to another, before the thorough Regulation thereof; several of which Grants you may see at Length in *Camden's* Remains, and in my Introduction to *Guillim*. Nor have I found any Edict, &c. to restrain such Practice till the special Prohibition of King *Henry V.* who by Proclamation did inhibit all Persons for Time to come, of what State or Degree soever,
to

to take or assume Arms without Licence from him, or the proper Officers appointed to grant the same, unless they had a Right thereto from their Ancestors, excepting such as had served him at the Battel of *Agencourt*. Here a Right from Ancestors is allowed without questioning the Means by which they gained them; and hence probably, or as is certain upon like Reason, is Prescription still allowed: That is, should a Person upon any Challenge of his Right make it appear, that those Arms challenged had been quietly enjoyed and used upon proper Occasions by his Ancestors Time out of Mind, (though no regular Entrance of the same appear) which Time is generally computed at fourscore or an hundred Years; such their uninterrupted using the same, shall be adjudged a Right equal to any regular Concession or Grant.

The principal Ends to which Arms are used, may be said to be, *First*, To distinguish the noble and deserving from the ignoble and base, being now-a-days Ensigns of Merit conferred by Princes on their deserving Subjects. *Secondly*, To difference and distinguish the several Branches or younger Houses of Families from the elder, and those Cadets one from another. Of the Means by which this was and is effected, I shall speak by and by, though but slightly, it being a Subject not only of the greatest Scope, but most intricate Nature; and of which I have written a Treatise separate and entire, to which I was induced by that ingenious Essay of Mr. *Nisbet's* upon the same Subject, with this Difference, that mine relates chiefly to the Practice of our own antient Nobility and Gentry, as his doth of the *Scots*; but also containing his many Instances,

Instances, together with the Practice of foreign Nations in that particular; and a Scheme, proving that Differences may be fixed, and the principal or paternal Coat preserved entire, even through the most remote Degrees, to the end of Time; and that by a Method so natural and dependant upon the common Rules of the Science, as that a common Capacity shall at one View see the Bearer's relation to the first Ancestor, though never so remote, and at never so great a distance of Time; which Treatise, as it is ready for the Press, I purpose to publish with the first Opportunity.

The third End to which Arms were designed, was, as mentioned in my Definition, to illustrate Persons Families and Communities, with Ensigns of noble Descent, and other Additaments of Honour, suitably distinguishing their several and different Ranks in Honour or Dignity; of which also I shall speak, when I come to the external Ornaments of the Shield.

By the Practice of Arms we perceive the Alliances of many antient and noble Families, which having escaped History, could not otherwise have been known; many Instances of which I have given in my Additions to *Guillim*, but particularly in my late mentioned Treatise upon Marks of Cadency, &c. as yet not published.

When I think of these noble and excellent Intendments, and how under regular and fair Practice, Descents and Alliances would be still discernable by Arms; I cannot but regret the too common Practice of late Years. I believe there have been but few Officers of Arms, under what Denomination soever,
b
but

but would have all Men believe Arms to be not only Ensigns of Honour and Merit, but also plain and true Documents of the several Intendments ascrib'd to them; yet one would think they themselves had but little Regard to these Matters, when they intermix new Families with old ones, and destroy the very Means by which such Documents might appear: I mean by granting the Arms of antient Families in different Tinctures, or their principal Figures with petty Alterations, additional or subtractive to our *Novi*, or new Gentry; whose Relation at best consists many Times meerly in Name. I have seen many of these Coats, and been deceived, believing them to belong to Cadets of some of our antient Nobility or Gentry; when upon further Enquiry I have found them to be Grants to Upstarts of yesterday; whose Relation was nothing to the old Houses, and whose Merit, seemingly by the Preamble, little more than paying the Patent Fees. These Gentlemen sure either forgot the Practice of the Ancients, or dispensed with it out of an extream Complaisance to their Clients. I am sensible how prevalent the Desire of being thought Antient is in this Kingdom; and that most upon the Acquisition of an Estate, desire in their Applications for Arms to be tack'd to some Family or other, and that they may be indulged to continue a Bearing, which it may be they had many Years unjustly usurped to the Prejudice of some Family more worthy, or something very near it, lest by too great an Alteration, the Vulgar might discern the Date of their Nobility. But why the Kings of Arms and Heralds, unto whom all Matters of Honour and Arms are committed, upon a

Presumption that their great Reading and Knowledge therein, would preserve all Things in a regular and proper Channel, are so very obliging, they know best. It has been the Opinion of some, not the least among their Predecessors, that new Families ought to be distinguished by entire new Arms: And I will venture to add too, that if the principal, most instructive, and most entertaining End and Intent of Arms be regarded, such new Coats ought to express the particular Rise, &c. of each *Novus*; and, above all Things, be composed of Figures, as wide as may be, from those born by elder Families of the same or like Names: That so Posterity may discern both the Time and Manner of their Rise, and that Families may proceed distinctly on without falling foul of another. I am sure there is not one Method of rising, either Ecclesiastick, Civil, or Military, or by the Sciences, Merchandise, or Trade; nor any Trust or Post, from the highest to the lowest Magistrate, but what with little Trouble might find significant Emblems, whereby to be intelligibly expressed: And this, as it is not only the End and Design of Grants, but also an entertaining Exercise, one would think it should engage those Gentlemen, who by their Places have an Opportunity of thus shewing their Wit and Learning, to do it more frequently.

I cannot sufficiently applaud the witty and adapt Devices of many of the Antients, and some former Kings of Arms: I shall instance in this Place only one, which was learned *Camden's*, and given to that brave Sailor Sir *Francis Drake*. The Coat was Sable, a Fess wavy, (resembling the Ocean on which his Merit ap-
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peared)

peared) between the two Pole Stars; shewing the Height thereof in his Progress from Pole to Pole: Which said Coat, or Device, was yet farther illustrated by his Crest or Cognizance, viz. upon a Wreath, the terrestrial Globe traversed by his Ship in full Rigging, and guided by an Hand from out the Clouds, with this modest and just Motto, *Auxilio Divino*.

If to this I should oppose many late Grants, I might be thought to aim at personal Reflections, rather than any improving of Science; and therefore I shall mention but one; nor would I that, but for the too frequency of its Use. This is an Augmentation granted but t'other Day to a wealthy and worthy Gentleman for Merit, in actual and considerable Services performed by him; where the Addition to the Coat very wittily and well expresseth them; but then the Crest, in my humble Opinion, is ridiculous, being upon a Wreath, a great brass Ship-Gun erect, and supported by a Martin, Proper; which is a little Creature not much unlike a Ferret or Weefel, but of a brown Colour, with a white Belly, &c. The Reason why the Martin is there, is, if I judge right, because it was the old Crest, alluding to the Name, which is *Martin*; and granted, if my Memory doth not deceive me, by Mr. *Clarencieux Cook*, temp. *Eliz. Reg.* But why it must be now in so unnatural a manner, let the Author shew Cause. If a Patent may express a great Gun to be supported by a Creature which can almost draw it self through the Touch-hole, or a Sun descending from the Chief be termed rising, and the like, and such Unnaturalities still be allowed fair and regular Devices; I should think, with some others, that Heraldry was

was only a Jargon of bombast Incoherences, a meer Catch-Penny, to gull or cozen the Ignorant. But I hope I have shewn the contrary; therefore shall only add, that these, and such like inconsiderate Practices, have rendred Armory and its Professors of less Esteem, and deterred many from studying sufficient to know either its Beauties or Use; as it must also both anger and puzzle our brave and old Nobility, to see their Ensigns of so little Esteem, even among those who teach them, to believe they are sacred *Tesseræ* of their Descents and Qualities; Which just Indignation, together with the easy Access of our modern *Novi* to Arms, hath so wrought upon some, as that they scarce regard the Ensigns of their own Descents; nay, some lay them quite aside. But to return.

These Arms being placed upon the Fronts, and other Parts, of noble and antient Seats, shew Travelers to whom they did formerly belong, and oftentimes whose they at present are; as they inform us also who were the Founders and Benefactors of antient Abbies, Churches, and other religious Houses; and also Colleges, as witness well those in our two famous Universities; and the numerous and other publick Buildings, such as Hospitals, Alms-Houses, and the like, so frequent in our Kingdom; particularly, in and near the antient and famous City of *London*. They infer also a right of Seniority, and the like, when affixed over Town-Halls, &c. and in great Markets at the publick Mart-House; as thus, in *Clare-Market*, *Covent-Garden*, the Arms of the *Hollis's*, Earls of *Clare*, after Duke of *Newcastle*, with the Quarterings, Supporters, Coronet, &c. are curiously performed in

Sculpture, and affixed upon the Market-House, to shew unto whom the same doth belong, and by whom held; its Denomination being also to the same Purpose.

Thus having, with as much Brevity as the Nature of my Subject would admit, traced Arms and Armory from their Original, through all their gradual Improvements, together with such Observations upon their Nature, Excellence, Use, and Abuse, as I thought material; I shall forthwith enter upon my second Design, *viz.* Rules for attaining the true Knowledge of Armory, or as is commonly understood of Blazon, &c.





A N
E S S A Y,
S H E W I N G

The necessary Rules for attain-
ing to the true Knowledge of
A R M O R Y.



C H A P. I.



A R M O R Y is a Branch, and no small Part
of the antient and noble Science of He-
raldry; the Skill whereof consists in bla-
zoning and marshalling; which latter is a
composing or joining of several Arms in
one Shield, to expresse various Intendments, of which

I shall treat more particularly at the close of this Work, and proceed now with my first Division.

Blazon is an obsolete *French* Word, as Mr. Nisbet informs me, signifying the winding of an Horn, and taken in Use from an old Custom frequent at Tournaments, where the Heralds used to summon the Justers when they took Cognizance of their armorial Bearings; but to Blazon, (in this Science) is merely to describe the Things born in proper Terms according to their several Gestures, Positions and Tinctures; in which Care ought to be particularly observed, because the adding or omitting any Part, is oftentimes an Alteration of the Coat.

I define Blazon to be merely Description, in Opposition to many, who not understanding Sir *John Fern*, will needs have the Description of the Things born, attended with the Qualities of the Creatures, and the Virtues of the Bearers. He saith, *Blazonia est recitatio, vel commemoratio alicujus virtutis, sub quibusdam signis abundè, & verè laudare, aut decorum dicere*: But *Blazonia* in this Place serves as *Arma*, and means directly the Arms themselves, not Blazon.

In blazoning a Coat, you must ever begin with the Field, and so proceed to the next immediate Charge. By an immediate Charge, I mean, when there is more than one, that which is nearest, and most immediately occupies the Field, as in the Center, or the like: Thus in the Coat of *Bennet Lord Tankerville*, the Bezant is first named, as next immediately in the Field; and this is the Case generally with all the Ordinaries when they are born betwixt Figures, of what Kind or Nature soever: And when Charges are born one upon another,

another, we term them Supercharges, and always mention them after the general or prior Charge on which they are placed.

As to the Repetition of the Words *of*, *and with*, and the like, which many tell us is so unpardonable, a Crime, I shall only say, that I take the meaning of the Rule to be this: That Tautology (as in all Writing or Talking) ought in this Case to be particularly avoided, and that your Blazons, if expressive, are the more beautiful, the more concise they are: And this I think may serve for such general Rules as hitherto are necessary.

As Method in Works of this Nature strengthens Memory, and much facilitates the attaining of Knowledge; so I know no Author's so fit for my Purpose, as that laid down in *Guillim's*, or rather *Dr. Berkam's* Display: To which I shall pretty much keep. To proceed, then, I shall consider Arms according to his Division into their Accidents and Parts; of which latter anon.

By the Accidents of Arms, he means their Tincture and Differences; which latter are either certain Additaments, by which the younger Sons of Families, and the Houses they constitute, are differenced and distinguished from the elder and direct Line; or else, certain Badges of Disgrace, which he from *Leigh* terms Abatements of Honour: Of both which hereafter.

By Tincture, is meant the several settled Metals, Colours, and Furs, used in Arms, among which many very strenuously argue a Precedency. And *Leigh* and some others have, (as I think,) mispent a great deal

of Time to find out the Virtues they represent, both simply, and when united together: And I have seen a Patent or two in those Puritan Times, whose Blazons did accord thereto. But for my part, I think, as many particular Intendments essentially require oftentimes a particular Colour, the better to compose the Emblem; so what is found most agreeable thereto ought to be preferred, and depend upon it; 'tis every where so among such as are Judges.

The Metals and Colours in Use are Or, Argent, Sable, Gules, Azure, Vert, Purpure, Tenne, and Sanguine, which in *English* are Gold, Silver, Black, Red, Blew, Green, Purple, Tawney, and Murray or Sanguine; which two latter being Staynard Colours, are seldom, if ever, to be met with among Arms of Families.

'Tis observable, that in composing these Arms, Metals and Colours go together; which was undoubtedly introduced, as well to represent them at the greater Distance, as to imitate the military Cassocks or Surcoats of the Antients, who were observed to embroider their Titia, or Cloth of Gold and Silver, with Figures in Colours of Silk, and their coloured Silk on the contrary with Gold and Silver; and hence is it that there is a general and standing Rule, that Metal shall never be placed upon Metal, nor Colour upon Colour. Yet this Rule in antient Times had its Exceptions, as particularly, in Differences or Marks of Cadency, and some extraordinary Arms, as those of the King of *Jerusalem*, which the *French* term Arms of Enquiry, or to be enquired into. There have been some few Instances of lesser Antiquity, especially of
Bordures,

Bordures, Chiefs, and the like, which the *French* term, Coassu, that is, sewed to the Field, and not charged thereupon; to avoid breaking the aforesaid Rule.

Before I shut up my Discourse upon these Colours, I shall just take as much Notice of their being called by the Planets precious Stones, Days of the Week, &c. as to assure you, that the Heralds in all Nations laugh at the silly and whimsical Invention; as though Red, Blew, or any other, ceas'd so to be, by being upon the Back of any Prince or Nobleman: Besides, Blazons of this sort can never be translated into any other Language, and therefore consequently unintelligible.

The Furs used in Arms are generally Ermine and Vaire; but before I proceed to Examples thereof, I will make some mention of the Shield; that nothing may irregularly approach, before you are acquainted with what Observations may seem necessary thereto.

By the Shield in Arms is meant the original Shield used in War, and on which Arms were originally borne; which, as in Nature they have been in almost all manner of Shapes *, so may they in Mimick; no Form being denied to the Painter's fruitful Design.

The Surface of this Shield is term'd the Field; because, as I suppose, it contains such honourable Marks as antiently were acquired in the Field; which the said

* Vide my Introduction to *Guillim*.

Surface, as the Continent there represents. But now I will return to Furs.

The Furs, then, as I said before, which Herald's have chiefly chosen, are Ermine and Vaire; each of which consist of various Sorts. Ermine, as most commonly carried, is when the Ground is white, and the Spots with which it is powdered are black, as in the annexed Example; but when the Colours are otherwise, then say some of our *English* Herald's, their Names must alter too.

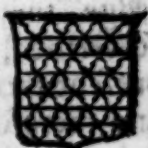


Thus if the Ground be black, and the Spots white, they are Ermines; if Gold the Ground, and the Spots black, Erminois; if Counterly, the Ground be black, and the Spots gold, then is it Pean; and if the Ground white, and the Spots black, with one little red Hair on each side, then forsooth, are they Erminites. I believe, the Herald who might boast his fancied Improvement in these new Inventions, did not fatigue himself much about assigning Reasons for Things, else he might have been so candid as to have told us how Erminites, which being a diminutive of Ermine, naturally signifying little Ermines, doth in Heraldry define these little red Hairs he speaks of; and how the Addition of the Letter S to Ermine shews the reversing of its Colour, together with the proper and natural meaning of his Erminois and Pean; for I fear now he is dead no other can.

The *French*, and all other Nations, even our Neighbours the *Scots*, laugh at us for these silly Fancies, and define such Bearings by natural Definitions; as for the first and most general, they say simply *Hermine*s; for the second, *Contre Hermine*s, or *de Sable semé*,

semé, des Hermines, d' Argent, or d' Or, &c. and for the fifth Form they know it not.

The other Fur said to be most in Use is Vaire; whose Figure is according to the Example annexed. In the Use of this, some old *English* Herald's have also had their Particularities; but for my part I shall follow the general Practice, by ever calling it Vaire, and mentioning the Tinctures of which it may be composed, if they happen not to be the most common and natural ones, *viz.* Argent and Azure; for then Vaire only is significant. Of the different Kinds of this Vaire used in *France*, and of Potent, Counter-potent, or Varry, Cuppy, &c. mentioned by some *English* Herald's, but seldom, if ever to be met with in *English* Arms; I have spoken at large in my Additions to *Guillim*, together with their Rise and Signification.



These several kinds of Furs are either under, or born upon Metal or Colour, for this Reason, I suppose, that they are ever composed of two Tinctures, yellow or white always one; and not from any particular Privilege, as some hint; for the like Practice is in all like Bearings, such as Componée, Checquy, Lozengy, and the like: And in all kinds of Figures born Proper, as the Term is for such as are used in their natural and proper Tinctures.

Before I close this my Discourse of Furs, I shall take Notice of one general Practice, as well among Foreigners as our selves, which I take to be very unnatural; that is, when we describe the Tinctures of which these Furs are composed, we do not use the
Words

Words Yellow and White, but Or and Argent; as though either of those Metals could be part of a Fur's Composition: Nor do I think it a Reason to alledge, that those Colours among Arms in general are so termed, because in Arms they are intended to represent those real Metals, for in Furs they are not; and therefore white and blew, yellow and red, &c. are much better, and more natural Definitions.

Thus much for the Accidents of Arms at this Time; I will now proceed to their Parts, by which is understood the Shield, with its Charge and Figures; and the Ornaments without the Shield; of which in the last Chapter of this Work.

What is meant by Shield and Field too I have already told you; its Points then are next to be considered.

By the Points of a Shield or Escutcheon, are meant certain Points or Locations, in which the Figures or Charges of the Field happen to be particularly placed; whence particular Heed ought to be had thereto, for the more plain describing the Position or Seat of the Things born, for the same Figure in the very same Tinctures born in different Points, renders those Bearings as many different Arms.

These Points for Example are,

A The

- A The dexter chief Point.
- B The precise middle chief Point, generally expressed by in Chief simply.
- C The sinister chief Point.
- D The Honour Point.
- E The Fesse Point.
- F The Nombril Point.
- G The dexter Base Point.
- H The precise middle Base; expressed also by in Base simply.
- I The sinister Base Point.



So that when any Figure is found to occupy any Particular of these, we blazon it in Chief, in Fesse, in Base, or in the dexter or sinister chief Point, &c. as the same shall appear to be seated.

The *French*, according to *Menestrier*, divide the Field into five Threes, and a single Base; and some differ from both Them and Us; but so long as the Seat of the Figure is directly implied, it matters not much, as I can see, whose Method is followed: This is our own, and significant enough.

From these Points of an Escutcheon or Shield, I proceed to the several partition Lines, such as Party per Pale, Bend, Fess, Chevron, Cross, Saltire, &c. by which is understood a Shield divided or cut through by a Line, or Lines, either perpendicular, diagonal, transverse, or the like, as in Example.

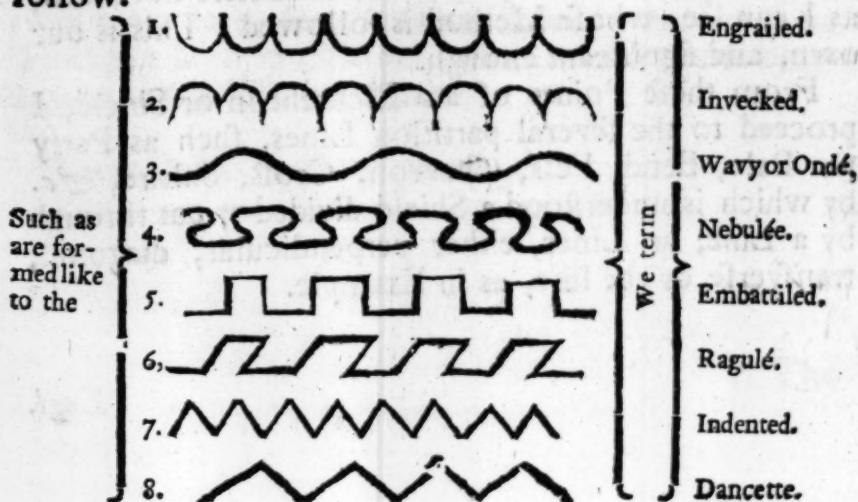
Engl.



Eng. per Pale, per Bend, per Fess, per Chevron, per Cross, per Saltire.
 or
 French Parti, Tranche, Coupée, la Pointe, Ecartele, Gironnee.
 or Quarterly of four.

We term these as above after the several Ordinaries, in regard, the Field seems to be divided in the midst of the Seat of the said Ordinaries. The *French* have all these Partitions, save the fourth, viz. per Chevron; such Form of Bearing they take and receive as one of their honourable Ordinaries, and call it a Point: Nor do they distinguish the rest by the Ordinaries, as is our Custom, but by the common Terms of Parti, Coupée, and the like, as above; in which their Method is somewhat shorter, but in no Case more intelligible or expressive.

These Lines have also their several Accidents; being sometimes engrailed, indented, wavy, or the like, as follow.



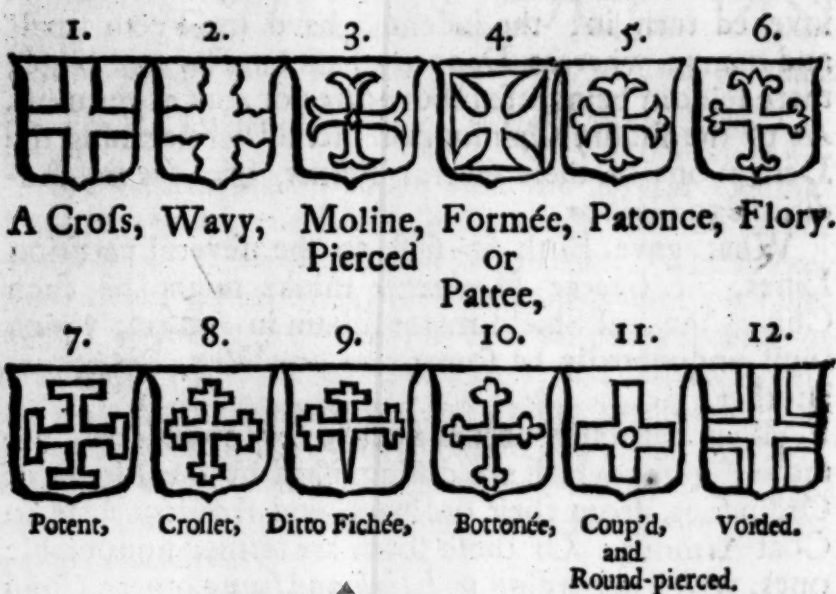
'Tis observable, that the two first and two last of these Lines differ from each other but little; the engrailed hath its Points turned outward, whereas the invected turn in; the indented have its Teeth small and many; whereas Dancetty hath but few and large; there seldom being used above three or four at the most. As to the sundry Opinions of Herald's concerning the Derivations of these several Terms, &c. see my Additions to *Guillim*.

What gave Birth at first to the several partition Lines, Sir *George Mackenzie* thinks might be such Cuts as the real Shield might sustain in Action, which must undoubtedly be sometimes one Way, sometimes another.

What naturally occurs next to be considered, are those Figures which are distinguished by the Name of Ordinaries, from their ordinary and frequent Use in Coat Armour. Of these some are termed honourable ones, which according to *Leigh* and some others, (fond of that Number) are said to be nine, viz. The Cross, Chief, Pale, Bend, Fess, Inescutcheon, Chevron, Saltire, and Bar. The *French* take into their *Pieces Honorables*, their Bar; which is our Bend sinister, the Bordure, and Pointe; but the Difference in these Customs being but trifling, I shall avoid any Dispute, and proceed to the first Instance, viz. The Cross, of which, as I told you long since, there being a great Variety of Forms, I have given Examples of a few, so many at least as may enable the Reader to know and understand such as he may meet in the ensuing Blazons of the Nobilities Arms.

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Such Examples as I think necessary to give of the various Forms of Crosses take as follow.



The first Instance is the plain Cross, and is always understood by simply a Cross; the next is a Cross ondè, or wavy, which may serve to instruct you, that all these Crosses, and all Ordinaries whatsoever, are in the Lines that form them liable to the several Accidents lately ascribed to the partition Lines, and may as well be indented, Engrailed, Ragulée, or the like.

The third we term a Cross Moline, or Milrind, Square-pierced in form of a Lozenge, in regard it resembles the Iron of a Mill, more especially as it is
now

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now pierced; in which Form it is not always, being born most frequently unpierced.

The fourth is a Cross Formée, according to some; but by most pattée; because its Extremities are broad and open.

The fifth is termed a Cross Patonce, partly on the same Account; and sometimes a Cross Flory, in regard its Extremities resemble in some Measure the Fleur de Lis; but the latter Name, I think, ought to be rather confined to the sixth Instance, the Ends of which bear a nearer Resemblance.

The seventh Example is the Cross Potent; so called, because its Extremities resemble the Heads of Crutches; which in old *English* were called Potents, as the great *Chancer* useth the Word.

*So eld she was that she ne went,
Unless it was by a Potent.*

The eighth is what Heralds called a Cross-Croset; its Extremities being crossed, thereby resembling little Crosses or Croslets, *Cruz Cruciatæ*. And the ninth is still the same sort of Cross, but under another Accident; which adds to its Blazon another Term, being called a Cross-croset Fichée; which is an old *French* Word, signifying Fixable, from the Latin *Figo*, as you may discern the bottom Limbo to be.

The tenth is called a Cross Bottony, or Bottonée, from the Knots or Buttons at its Extremities. And the eleventh a Cross Coup'd, and round pierced; the Term coup'd signifying, that its Extremities are severed

from those of the Shield; and my mentioning round pierced, is a Lesson to inform you, that as not only Crosses, but variety of Things are liable to the same Accident of being pierced after different Forms, that such Form you must be ever careful to express. It may not be improper also to note here, that as these Crosses, and those other Figures hinted, are also liable to Charges of the same Form; the Means to distinguish such Charges from piercing, is by observing, whether the Figure in Question agreeth with the Field in Tincture or not; if it doth, 'tis a piercing; if not, a Charge; and ought as such to be blazoned: Let *Leigh* say what he will.

The twelfth and last Example I thought necessary to insert in this Place, is a Cross Voided; to distinguish betwixt which, and one Cross being born upon another, the Observations just now given in relation to piercing, hold Good.

You are also to observe, that not only the plain Cross is liable to those Accidents of piercing and voiding, but every one of them, and also most of the other Ordinaries in Use; and that the Rules laid down for them, serve to all Bearings whatsoever, when so voided or pierced.

There is another Kind of a voided Cross, which is by old Heralds term'd *Recercele*, being voided entirely throughout: An Instance of which you will find in the Lord *Willoughby's* Plate.

Thus

Thus much of the Cross. The next honourable Ordinary in Course to be considered is the Chief; which takes Name from the *French* Word *Chef*, signifying the Head, as it seemingly is to the Shield. Its Content in the Field is a third Part, as in the Example.



The Pale presents it self next, and is used to signify Pales, or Pallisades of Defence. Its Content is also one third of the Field, and its Form as in the Example.



The Practice of *England* hath subdivided this Ordinary into Diminutives, as a Pallet, or little Pale, containing just half of the Pale; and that into Endorses, which make just half of the Pallet, and fourth of the Pale; and these latter, they tell you, are never born but when a Pale is between them.

The next Ordinary is the Bend; which, according to most, represents the Shoulder Belt, on which Account it is often written *Baltheus humeralis*. Its Content is as said of the others, except uncharged, when some fancy it but a fifth part; however, Foreigners make not that Distinction either of this or any other Ordinary, allowing a third to all. 'Tis drawn as in the Cut, and according to our Custom hath its Diminutives also; as for Instance, first,



The Bendlet, which is just half of the Bend; 2^{dly}, a Garter; the 3^d Part; the 4th, a Cost, or Cottice, never born but when a Bend is between two, and which, they tell you, is a Quarter of the Bend; and

the fifth, a Ribbond, the half of that. But the *French* and other Nations are ignorant of these Subdivisions, and let there be born what Number there will, generally term them so many Bandes, Pales, Bars, &c. in which, as the Custom is general, I think it best: Besides, we, with all our invented nominal Distinctions, cannot preserve the Order thereby aim'd at.

We have also the Bend sinister, which is a like Figure, only drawing its beginning from the sinister Chief, as the Bend (always simply express'd) doth from the dexter.

This Ordinary, the *French* and all others understand by a Bar.

Its Diminutives, according to us, are the Scarpe, or Scarfe, and the Battoon; which in *England* hath been very frequently taken as a Note of bastardy or illegitimacy.



The next Ordinary in Course, is, the Fess; whose Content is also one third of the Field, as in the Cut annex'd. This Ordinary represents the military Zone, Girdle, or Belt, and is ever in that Position; and from which are no Diminutives.



The Inescutcheon is next, to which our Heralds allow a fifth Part of the Scutcheon or Field, as in the Example.

The Chevron, to which our Heralds allow a fifth part of the Field, is as drawn, and hath its Diminutives also; as first, a Chevronel, and then a couple Close, two of which are always born together, with a Chevron between them. This Ordinary may be carried in Chief or in Base, either as in the Example, or reversed, and is liable to all the Accidents ascribed to the foregoing Ordinaries.



The Saltire offers it self next. This Ordinary, whose Form you see, is supposed to imitate, or represent an Engine of like Figure, by which Soldiers in antient Times used to mount and skip over the Walls of their Enemies, having Pegs fastened therein for their more easy Ascent. 'Tis on this Account it hath that Denomination from the Latin Word *Salto*, and that it hath been frequently born ragulée, indented, engrail'd, &c.



In *Scotland* it is frequently taken for a *St. Andrew's* Cross; he being their Patron, and that their Royal Standard. So that wherever it is born as Arms, either from the Pilgrimages, Croissades, or the like; or as Augmentations, alluding to the said Royal Standard or Badge; 'twould be very improper to term it a Saltire, it being in such Cases intended for a Cross.



The ninth and last honourable Ordinary, according to our *English* Heralds, is the Bar; which may be, and often is, born in several Parts of the Field, and upon various common Charges, as well as other Ordinaries, such as Lions, &c. whereas the Fess is confined to the Center of the Field. They allow it a fifth part of the Field; and for its Diminutives, first, a Barrulet, which is in Substance one half of the Bar; and a Closset, to which they allot but one fourth. Of these Clossets, I judge may be



composed what we understand by Gemels, from *Gemellus*; and suitable to their Name are they ever born in Couples, as in the annexed Instance, which we call three Bars-Gemels. The *French*, as I observed to you, know not our Ordinary, the Bar; in their Practice calling our Bend sinister by that Name; and all Bearings of this Nature, so many Fases, or Fascée, which is like our Barry; of which hereafter, unless there be many born at one Time; and then are they often Burelles, or Burellé, except they are born in Couples, and then, like to us, they call them Jumelles.



To these honourable Ordinaries will I add the Bordure, whose Diminutive is the Orle. I know, that in this, I differ from most of our antient, and even best Heralds; who because 'tis so frequently found in the Differences of younger Houses, will in no Case admit it as a principal Figure. But to convince
such

such as may be prejudiced by such their Mistake, I have in my Additions to *Guillim*, under that Head, with other Arguments, given the convincing one of several good and true old Coats, *English* too ; containing nothing but Bordures of various Kinds, which there, must certainly be principal Figures.

The Orle, the late mentioned Diminutive of the Bordure, is as in the Cut, and so called from the Latin *Orula*. And from this is taken the Tresshure, being its Diminutive, which is born both single and double. How antient it is may be imagined from the Royal Atchievement of *Scotland*, in which it is born double, surrounding the Lion as a Defence, and ornamented with the *French* Fleurs de Lis, ever since the memorable League betwixt *Charles* the Great of *France*, and *Achais*, at the same Time King of *Scotland*, as their own Writers tell us.

Thus much of the honourable Ordinaries. I will now touch upon some few others, not quite so frequently to be met with. The first is the Pile. This is taken to represent those Piles that are used in securing Foundations for great Buildings, Bridges, and such like Works. They are sometimes born single, and sometimes two or more in a Shield at one time, as in the Example, which also directs their Form ; and by us is termed three Piles in Point. This Ordinary is liable to like Accidents with those beforementioned, and is frequently born reversed and issuant from other Parts



Parts of the Escutcheon, such as Bend-Ways,
&c.

The next is a Gyron, of the Antients different Opinions concerning this Ordinary, see *Guilim*. The Position of it being accidental, ought always to be expressed as in Example, a Gyron issuant from the dexter chief Corner. They are seldom born single, but generally six or eight at a Time, constituting what we term Gironnée; of which in another Place.



The Quarter, together with its Diminutive the Canton, so term'd of the *French* Word *Canton*, signifying a little Quarter, differ only in this, that the former occupies a fourth part of the Shield, and the latter only a Corner, as in Example. This Ordinary is always fixed in either the dexter or sinister Chief, and generally contains Augmentations, or other additional Distinctions. 'Tis blazoned simply a Canton, as in the Arms of *Sutton Lord Lexington*, viz. Argent, a Canton, Sable.



The next at Hand is the Flanch, which is never born single, but in Couples, as in the Cut, and is always so born in the Flanks of the Shield. Its Diminutives are by our Heralds the Flaque and the Voider; whose Difference consists in being something less, being also always born in Couples as the Flanches.



The

The next and last Ordinary I shall mention is the Label, or File, which is born from one to five Points, but most commonly of five or of three as in the Example. This, though so frequent a Difference, is also a principal Figure; but for its Varieties, and the different Opinions concerning its true Name and Intendments; see my Additions upon *Guillim's Display*.



Having run over all the Ordinaries in Use, with all such Remarks as may be necessary for fully understanding the same; I shall proceed now to some further Observations tending to the different manner of their being born in Coat Armour.

First, then, these Ordinaries are not always carried single, as in the preceding Examples; but intermixed one with another, sometimes two or three in one Shield, and they of different Kinds; sometimes under or upon, and sometimes beside or between one another: All which you must carefully observe to define in an orderly manner, as they are found to stand in Nearness to the Field or Continent, according to my former Rules of Blazon, and that in as concise a manner as you can.

Secondly, Neither are these Ordinaries confined to attend on one another only; being in like manner intermixed with all manner of common Charges, whether animal or vegetative, natural or artificial: The diverse Rules concerning the Bearing, of which you must also heedfully observe: And those are the Lessons which I am now entering upon.

CHAP.



C H A P. II.

Of common Charges.

Y common Charges, I understand all manner of Creatures or Things whatsoever, as are not by Custom become peculiarly proper only to the Science; (of which sort are the Ordinaries already treated of:) To recount the various Species and Kinds of which, would be to enumerate all the different Bodies, Kinds, and Species, to be met with in the Heavens, the Earth, and the Waters; so numerous and extensively general are the Creatures and Things born in Arms: Whence such an Attempt would prove as endless as it is unnecessary. Therefore I shall only deliver some general and useful Observations and Rules; yet such, as if minded, will sufficiently direct the Reader to proper and elegant Blazons, let the Figures that occur be of never so many various Natures or Species.

First, then, 'tis a general and most certain Rule, that all these common Charges, of what Kind or Nature soever, are known, distinguished, and defined by
their

their natural and proper Names, known to every Body.

Secondly, You are to consider the Figure to be blazoned or defined, as to its Nature, &c. and dress your Language accordingly.

As for Instance; should the Bearing prove a Resemblance of any heavenly Body, such as a Planet, &c. your first Consideration is, in what State or Condition such Planet appears to be; as supposing it the Sun, whether in his Meridian, or Eclipse; or the Moon, whether in her Complement, at full, eclips'd, in her Wane, Increase, or Decrease; and so suit such your Descriptions in proper astronomical Terms: For as this is a certain Rule, that all Blazons are the more elegant, when dress'd in the proper Terms of the several Arts or Sciences which the Figures to be described are of, or belonging to; so you take Care not to omit any armorial Term necessary to be used, as such Definition is to pass for Blazon. Thus in the Coat of *St. Clere*, Azure, the Sun in his Meridian, Proper; to have said Or, would have been a Fault; and I make no Question, but as by the Azure Field was meant the Firmament, or a clear Sky; so the Blazon would be more elegant by such a Description, without any armorial Term, besides that of the Shield; the Reason is the same, the Continent being as much the Firmament, as the Figure contained the Sun, and therefore necessary to be named,

The



The Increase and Decrease of the Moon is in Heraldry expressed by a counter Position ; the former with Rays, as in the Example ; though in the Firmament they appear alike. This I blazon, Sable, in Chief, two Moons, that on the dexter increasing, the other declining, Proper, and in a Base, a Crescent, Argent. I term the Continent, Sable, and not Midnight, because of the Crescent in base ; which, though a Moon, and the most frequent form of Bearing her in Arms, is yet unnaturally drawn ; and as it were by Custom rather a sort of Figure or Charge proper to this Science, than one of the common Charges I am about to treat of, on which account I use also the armorial Term Argent ; whereas the Tincture of those in Chief (being intended to represent her properly and naturally) I define only by the Word Proper.

From hence, then, observe, that whenever you meet with any of these common Charges, be they of what Nature and Kind soever, whether animate or inanimate ; if you perceive them to be of the natural and proper Colour of the Creatures, or Things they represent, you must always call them Proper, and not Argent, Or, Gules, or by the like Terms of this Science, which always give Place to Definitions more natural.

When you meet with any Kinds of Trees, or their Parts, or any other Kinds of Vegetables, or their Parts ; you must observe, first, in what Condition it seems to appear, as whether spread or blasted ; what kind of
Tree,

Tree, and whether bearing Fruit or not; as also the Tinctures of both, as whether natural to it self, or in other Metals or Colours conformable to the Practice of Arms.

Secondly, If a Part only, what Part; as whether the Trunk, Branches, Fruit, or Leaves; if the former, whether standing or not; if not, in what manner it may seem to have been felled; as whether eradicated or torn up by the Roots, or seemingly sawed or cut down; whether dismember'd of its Limbs or Branches; or if any remain, in what Part, and of what Kind, and after what manner the rest seem to have been removed, as whether irregularly broken or cut away.

If the Bearing you meet consists only of Members, such as its Limbs or Branches, or its Fruit, or Leaves only; then you must observe of the first, whether such be fresh, and with Fruit, or withered and starv'd; of the second and third, whether simply, alone, or on Slips, whether fresh or decaying, which is discernable by the manner in which born, as whether pendant or dropping, or erect and vaunting; which two last hold good also in all Kinds of Flowers and Grain, when born simply or on their Stalks; some few of which, from their frequent Use and customary Forms of Draught, are become as it were proper Charges, rather than common ones, according to my late Distinction of the two Kinds of Moons. Of this sort are those that follow, *viz.* the *French Lilly*, or *Fleur de Lis*, the *Garb* or *Sheaf*, the *Trefoile*, *Quarterfoile*, and *Cinquetoile*.

The



The Form of the first is visible in the Arms of *France*; and of the second, third, and fifth in the annex'd Example, *viz.* Azure, a Garb, Or, between two Cinquefoiles in Chief, and a Trefoile in Base, slip'd, Argent; the Quaterfoile is as the Cinquefoile, wanting only one Leaf, and both are frequently born with their Stalks or Slips as the Trefoile.

In this Place you are to observe, that Gold doth not imply the proper Hue or Appearance of any Thing, except its self or the Planets, whose Splendor cannot by any Thing else be so nearly represented.

Thus much for such Observations and Rules as I thought necessary for attaining the true Blazon of such Vegetables or their Parts as are born in Arms; I will proceed now to like Observations upon the blazoning of Bodies animal, or their Parts; and first of the rational.

Man, and the Parts of his Body, are frequently Charges in Coat Armour: As to which, these Considerations follow: First, as is said of other Things, whether he be born, whole, or in part; if whole, in what kind of Gesture or Action, which must be described as such Gesture or Action in Man generally is; also whether naked or habited; if the latter, after what manner, as whether Rustick, in Armour, or in Robes, or the Attire of any Honour or Dignity; all which ought to be properly and naturally described, as in the Arms of some Bishops Sees, where Bishops or Patron Saints are carried; in which case also 'tis more elegant

gant to say, he beareth *St. John*, *St. Augustin*, or the like, which the Emblem is intended to represent.

If the Bearings consist of its Parts, we are to consider as before, what Parts, and how dislocated, dissected, or otherwise removed from the rest; as whether coup'd or eras'd, the latter being a forcible rending or tearing of one part from another, by which the joining Parts seem jagged and torn; the other representing a clean Dissection as it were, by a Sword, or the like: We must also consider in what Action or Posture we find them; and as was said of the whole, whether habited or not, and so accordingly describe them. I shall add but one Remark more, and then proceed to Animals irrational; and that is, as all Things born in Arms look for the most part to the right side of the Shield; so we need not in such Cases use the Expression *side-fac'd*, any more in human Resemblances, than those of Beasts, the Rule being the same; but where the Action is otherways, it must be expressed as if *full-fac'd*, or the like; but here you must take care of *guardant*, and other Terms proper to Beasts; *affronté*, or *aspectant*, being much better.

Thus much for the rational Animal and his Parts; now for such as are irrational; by which I mean all manner of Beasts born in Arms, whether real or chimerical, whether whole or in part; of both which the Rules already laid down hold good here also; wherefore I shall proceed in such others only, as from their several Natures are peculiarly of Use in their Blazons or Descriptions.

d

What

What Distinction I mean as to their several Natures, is their Dispositions, some being Beasts of prey and wild, whilst others, though wild, are inoffensive, and some others are sociable and useful, for Man's Sustenance and Diversion.

Of the first sort are Lions, Tygers, Bears, Leopards, Boars, Wolves, Dragons, and their like, whose fierce and rapacious Natures when erected, as to seize their Prey, are expressed in Heraldry by the Word rampant: They are also born passant, *i. e.* walking, and sometimes guardant, which is full-fac'd, arguing Vigilance, &c. as in the Royal Arms of *England*; sometimes are they regardant, which argues Retrospection, as looking entirely behind them: Their other Gestures are generally curreant, saliant, sejant, couchant, and dormant; that is to say, running, leaping, setting, couched, and sleeping. 'Tis observable, that the Tails of these devouring Beasts are generally elevated to express their Fire and Fury; so that thence ariseth another Observation, that whenever you find them flung between their Legs, or the like, 'tis an Argument of some sudden Fear, and therefore in Blazon they are then said to be cow'd, which Expression denotes also the Position of the Tail without any other; when their Talons are of Tinctures different from their Bodies, we say armed so or so, &c.

Among such Beasts as by Nature are milder, and by Custom more sociable, as well as useful towards Man's Profit and Sport, may be reckoned the Bull, Buffiloe, Oxe, Goat, Ram, Sheep, Horse, Deer, Dog, &c. and forasmuch as the former five are endowed

dowed by Nature with Weapons, as Horns, which together with their Hoofs are very often different from their Bodies, we then say armed, and hoof'd, or unguled, of such or such Tinctures. But this Term holds not good with the Deer, who being by Nature timorous and without Courage, are supposed to wear their lofty Antlers, not as Weapons but Ornaments, whence when speaking thereof we say attired, not armed: The Gestures of the five first of these Beasts are generally as those mentioned of the ravenous, rampant only excepted, and delivered always in like Terms.

As for the Horse, Stag, Buck, Antelope, Dog, &c. they differ much, the former is said to be in full Course to gallop, trot, pace, and the like. The Deer and Antelope are described also in full Course, also curreant, saliant, tripping, and sejant; when couched they are said to be lodged, and when looking towards you at gaze. And as to the Dog there are of diverse Kinds, bred up to diverse Exercises and Games, as the Bear-Dog, Bull-Dog, Greyhound, Talbot, or Bloodhound, together with the Land and Water-Spaniel; so that the first Consideration is what kind of Dog is born, what Sport he seems fitted for, &c. And hence the particular Terms of Beating, Coursing, Scenting, Setting, and the like, are very proper if the Dog be found in Gestures suitable to their several Exercises, according to my former Rule which I laid down when speaking of the Planets. As to all other common Actions, such as running, leaping, and the like, the common Terms will serve. Thus the *Allens*, a *Kentish* Family, and no doubt old Sportsmen, carry a Chevron

between three Talbots, or Bloodhounds upon the Scent; and for their Crest, a Stag or Buck in an enclosed Park, Proper; if I remember right.

Thus, I think, I have given you all such several Actions and Gestures, together with their Terms, and such necessary Observations thereupon, as if rightly minded and applied, will serve to blazon or describe any Coat composed of Beasts, of what Kind or Nature soever: And, so I shall, in like manner, now proceed to the various bearings of Birds and Fishes.

I shall make Distinction among these, much like the former, among Beasts; some being ravenous, and Birds of prey, as the Eagle, Vulture, Hawk, Kite, and their like; all whose Weapons, viz. Beaks and Talons, we term Arms, and say armed so and so, when they differ from the Body.

The other sorts of Birds are some more tame, and seem to delight in the Society of Man, such as the Dunghill-Cock, Peacock, Turkey-Cock, Goose, Ducks, Pigeons, and the like: The bravest of which is the former, being an Emblem of a most gallant and obdurate Soldier, whose Weapons are sharp Arms: Nature in his Comb hath endowed him with a Crest, and so we always term it: When he moves, 'tis (as of the Ostridge, Stork, &c.) he Stalketh; and when he elevates his Wings to crow, he Vaunteth. As to the others, viz. Peacock, Turkey-Cock, &c. I know no particular Terms necessary, except that upon their spreading their Tails they are said to be in their Pride; and when walking, Stalking. And for the rest, such as are intirely predable, I shall only take Notice,

Notice, that they are said sometimes to be upon the Wing, volant, rising, close; that is, with their Wings close, which is proper to be expressed for Swallows, and all other Birds who are generally upon the Wing, as in an unusual Action: And for their Beaks and Legs, we term them either member'd so and so, or, as I hold best, but simply Beak and Legs, &c. But to return to the Eagle.

The Eagle, by all held the noblest among Birds, hath been honoured as the Ensign of the greatest Empires, such as *Rome*, *Germany*, *Muscovy*, &c. He is most frequently born in an open and full Expansion, which I take to be as well in regard of his Excellence, as his soaring Flights, which that Action naturally resembles, and which we generally define by the Word displayed.

He is also frequently represented with two Heads, and in the same Action; whence he is termed a Spread Eagle, as a Distinction from the other. Thus is he now born by the Emperors of *Germany* and *Russia*; which Form hath by most been thought assumed, only in Allusion to the Division of the *Roman* Empire; but if there be any thing of Truth in what I have read at the Coffee-House, there must be such a Creature too.

'Tis an Extract of a Letter from *Cadiz* in *Spain*, dated *August 8th 1723*. which take in its own Words.

" The Vice-Roy of *Mexico*, who came on Board
 " the *Azouge* Ships, brings to the King of *Spain* a
 " dead Spread Eagle, which was shot through the right
 d 3 " Wing

“ Wing and Side by a *Spaniard*, as it was taloning a
 “ Faun near a Place called *Guaxaca*.

“ The Consort of it fled away. This other was
 “ immediately carried to the Bishop of *Guaxaca*, who
 “ sent it to the Vice-King eighty Leagues to *Mexico*.
 “ It remained about four Days alive. The Vice-King
 “ ordered above five hundred *Indians* well skilled in
 “ Game, to ply all the Country for the flown Spread
 “ Eagle, and promised an hundred pieces of Eight
 “ to the Person who brings it alive. This is a young
 “ Bird, not much bigger than a midling Turkey, of
 “ the common Colour of an Eagle, but of a larger
 “ Breast and Shoulders than ordinary; out of which
 “ spring two Necks, seven or eight Inches long; a-
 “ sunder on each Neck there is the Head of an Ea-
 “ gle, nearly proportioned to each other; save, that
 “ the right Head hath the Beak something stronger
 “ and sharper towards the Extremity. It was seen he
 “ watched with one Head, whilst he fled and preyed
 “ with the other, and used both either Way. It has
 “ its Feathers on still, except what fell off from the
 “ right, through the Mismanagement of the Surgeon
 “ who endeavoured to cure it. The right Head faces
 “ through his Blunder to the left Side, otherways it
 “ would form as it lies in the *Imperial* Arms. As
 “ no History makes mention of such a Bird, the Ad-
 “ miration is very great: It made so much Noise in
 “ *America*, that the Publick Notaries lived on the At-
 “ testations taken of it some Weeks.

“ To the Fact of this, (saith the Author) I can add,
 “ I had the Eagle in my Hands, and stood the Exami-

“ ner

"ner of it for fifty Gentlemen, until *Patinho's* Surgeon came into the Hall, and then I delivered it to his better Judgment.

If this prove a Truth, we shall have the Opinions of the Learned thereupon without doubt; till then I leave it, and return to my Subject.

Fishes, of which there are many voracious, and many predable, are next to be considered. But the Terms differ not so much in their variety of Actions, as of Beasts; for if swimming, they are naiant; if erect, they are hauriant; if feeding, vorant; and if bent, like as they paint the Dolphin, then are they either naiant embow'd, or hauriant embow'd. And so I conclude my several Observations and Rules, concerning the bearing of what I call common Charges in Coat Armour, by telling you, that all these several Charges are born under, upon, beside, and between all the proper Charges or Ordinaries preceding them.





CHAP. III.

*Of Figures peculiar to Arms, such as
are not termed Ordinaries.*



Of this Sort may be particularly reckoned Bezants, Torteauxes, Lozenges, Fusils, Mascles, Frets, Chaplets, Annulets, Waterbougets, Escallops, and Mulletts.



The first represents the old Coin of *Bizantium*, now *Constantinople*, and is sometimes of Silver as well as Gold. The second signifies little Bread Cakes used in those *Croisades*, and of Variety of Colours like our modern eatable Wafers, &c. their Form is always round and flat; whence modern Painters and Engravers are wrong, when they make them like Balls. Here our *English* Heralds have introduced another Whim of their own, allowing Bezants alone to be Gold, calling the Silver ones Plates; as they will have Torteauxes always red, calling these Roundles; if blew, Hurts; if green, Pomeys; if black,

(lxxiii)

black, Ogreses, or Pellets; if purple, Golps; and if
tenne, Oranges: But these Whims are known no
where but here, and a little in *Scotland*; they follow-
ing us.

The next are Lozenges, Fusils, and Mascles; whose
Forms are



The first, which is somewhat longer than broad, is
the Lozenge; the second, which is the Fusil, is yet
longer than that, and are both ever born solid; whereas
the Mascle is born, as it were, voided, and hollow in
the middle, and is true square. As to what they re-
present, together with the various Opinions of anti-
ent Writers concerning them, see my Additions to
Guillim.

The other six Bearings of this Sort are as follow-
ing.



The first of these being the Fret, some think in its
further Composition to be like to a Net, or the like;
tis

'tis a very antient Bearing, and call'd by many in the North of *England*, *Hartington's Knot*, that Family having for a long time born the same.

The second and third of these represent Rewards; the former being a Chaplet or Garland enrich'd with Roses, &c. and the second, a Ring called by us an Annulet, from the *Latin Annulus*.

The fourth of these is termed a Waterbouget, though in my Mind a very odd one, according to modern Draught; however, I could with a little Help bring somewhat of that Form to two very visible Buckets.

The two last of these peculiar Bearings are the Escallop Shell, and the Mullet; the former being one of the Emblems of those antient Croisades; and the Mullet, as some define a Star, others a Rowel of a Spur, which I verily believe, it was meant to represent; for, first, *Guillim* tells us, that *Molette* was an antient *French Word*, signifying the same, though now obsolete; and 2^{dly}, 'tis very frequently pierced in the middle, and born as well of six as eight Points, and was very frequent in those Expeditions, which I fancy gave Birth to them all.

From some of these Bearings are composed others of very frequent Use; as Lozengy, Fusily, Masculy, and Fretty; for the three former let the annex'd Instance of the first serve, the rest differing in their Compositions, only as in their simple Shapes: They all are privileged like Furs, to be born under, or upon, either Metal or Colour; as also is Checquy, Counter-Componée, and Gobonée; who differ from one another



ther, only in the Number of Tires or Rowes; as for Instance, one Rowe is termed Goboné, or Composé, as composed of Bits or Gobbits; those of two Tires, Countercomposé; and those of three, or more, Checquy; differing from Lozengy, Fuslee, &c. in that the Lines that compose them are ever perpendicular and traverse, and are all liable to be charg'd.

Here then is a fit Place to give Rules for those other Bearings, drawn from the honourable Ordinaries long since treated of, and from whom they take Denomination, such as Paly, Barry, Bendy, and the like.



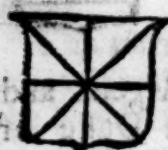
This Bearing is Barry of six pieces, Argent and Azure, the Coat of his Grace the present Duke of Kent. This though but one Example, may serve to illustrate all the rest, they differing only in their Pieces, as whether formed from the Bar, as this is, or the Pale, Bend, or the like.

These differ from those of Lozengé, Checquy, &c. in that the Lines of which they are composed are subject to all the aforementioned Accidents incident to Lines, and may be wavy, indented, &c. which those cannot.

They are sometimes divided into but four, sometimes into eight or ten pieces, sometimes more; but then the Number need not be named: The Number is ever even, that being the Means to distinguish between Partitions and Charges; for should they be odd, the Field would appear both at Bottom and Top, which would render whatever stood free, a charge;
and

and then such Coats would be so many Pallets, Bendlets, Barrulets, and the like. They are all subject to be charged in whole, or in part; that is in some particular Pieces, or by a large fair Charge, whether proper or common, over the whole; as you may see in Lord *Gower* and *Saunderson's* Arms, among the Nobilities Plates and Blazons.

Before I close this Chapter, I will speak of the Consequences of the several Partition Lines, whose Form and Accidents I long ago mentioned.



These Lines not only divide the Field into different Tinctures, as in this Example of the Duke of *Argyle's* Coat, viz. Gironne of eight, Or and Sable, in which Case they are always liable to Charges, either over all (or in part) as in the Coat of the Lord *Trevor*; but they often cause a Transmutation, or Counterchanging of the very Charges themselves, with the Colours of the Field: And this they effect two Ways.



The first and more plain is as in the Coat of *Smith* of *Norfolk*, viz. Party per Chevron, Ondé, or Wavy, Or and Sable, three Panthers Heads guardant eras'd, and counterchang'd of the Field; that is, the Field being Gold and Black, the Charge *é contra* is Black and Gold: And here also you see an Instance of one of the Lines under its Accident,

The other is, where the Partition Line goes through the whole, Charge and all, as in the two following Examples; first, Party per pale, Argent and Gules, a Roundlet counterchang'd, which was the old Coat of the Lord *Walgrave*; though the Roundle is since difus'd.



The second Instance is the Coat of Sir *Sadlier*, Bart, viz. Party per Fess, Or and Azure, a Lion rampant counterchang'd in a Canton, the Arms of *Ulster*, as the Mark of his hereditary Dignity. And here you may note, that these Arms of *Ulster*, viz. Argent, a sinister, Gules, is the distinguishing Mark or Note of all Baronets.



All I shall further note in this Chapter, is, that all manner of Charges, whether proper or common, are subject now and then to such Transmutations from all the said Partition Lines, and so are all Coats of Partitions, such as Paly, &c. not only from strait Lines, but, as instanced in *Smith* above, from Lines also under all their Accidents.





CHAP. IV.

Of marshaling and differencing Descendants.



IN my first Definition of the Skill of Armory, I told you, that it consisted in Blazon and Marshaling; which first Division being largely discours'd, my present Business is the second.

Marshaling, then, is the composing or joining of various Figures or Arms in one Shield, upon various and different Intendments.

The Intendments to which Arms have been composed and marshal'd, are very many and various. There is scarce one asserted Rise or Occasion of Arms among the many mentioned, but hath been a Means in some sort; whence the Subject is too extensive to be touch'd in this small Tract, further than what may seem necessary to the Reader's understanding the modern Practice of *England*, and the following Atchievements of the *English* Nobility; which I shall perform as orderly

derly and concisely as I can; considering only at present those Intendments of Marriage and Descent, referring you for the rest to my Additions to the sixth Section of *Guillim*, or to Mr. *Nisbet's* ingenious Essay upon the antient and modern Use of Armories.

By composed Arms, I mean, when part of one Coat is taken into another, thereby composing one entire Arms; which hath been antiently done to shew Alliances and Descent by Marriage; the Antients sometimes taking part of the Wife or the Mother to express the same: But these Things were before Marshaling in its present manner was known.

The Antients had also another way of bearing such Coats as they had a Right to by Descent, and the like; which was in as many different Shields round their own, which they called collateral Shields; but as these relate little to modern Practice, I omit them, to come yet nearer to my Purpose, which will be to introduce the modern Customs of Impaling and Quarterings, with their gradual Rise, &c.

Impal'd Arms are such, as when the Escutcheon is dimidiated per Pale, the Man's Coat occupies the right side, and the Woman's the left. And thus is our present Custom to carry the Arms of all single Marriages, as *Guillim* terms them; by which he means, where the Wife is either no Heiress, or else hath no Heir to inherit her Patrimony. See Instances of this among the Nobility.

But this our Custom of Impaling was not sudden, having its gradual Rise; the first and most antient manner

ner being, by joining two Shields together at their Flank, which they termed *Accolée*, and which was undoubtedly an Improvement upon the aforementioned Custom of collateral Shields. Thus the Kings of *France* carried their Arms with those of *Navarre*, upon their marrying the Heiress of that Country: And thus, as *Sandford* in his genealogical History tells us, did *Margaret* Duchess of *Norfolk*, and Daughter to King *Edward* the First, carry her own Arms betwixt those of her two Husbands whom she married, *temp. E. 2. viz. Accolée*, that on the right containing her first Husband, *John* Lord *Segrave*, *viz. Sable*, a *Lion rampant*, *Argent*, crown'd, *Or*; and on the left, *Sir Walter Manning* her second Husband, *viz. Or*, three *Chevrons*, *Sable*.

The next Step to our Method was, dimidiating both the Arms of the Husband and Wife Pale-ways, and then joining the left half of the Woman's to the right half of the Man's, composing, as it were, one Coat. Thus, as the said Author observes, was the Seal of *Margaret de Clare*, joined with the Arms of her Husband, *Edmund*, Earl of *Cornwal*, and that of *Isabel de Rivers*, Heir and Countess of *Devon*, with those of her Husband, *William de Fortibus* Earl of *Albemar*, *Temp. E. 1.* And the same also did *Margaret*, Sister to King *Philip* the Fourth of *France*, second Wife to King *Edward* the First, with the Arms of *England* and *France*: About which Time *Sandford* tells us, he thinks that Practice and Custom pretty frequent among us.

There was yet another manner of Dimidiation before our entire Impalements; which was, by placing the Woman's Arms entire upon the sinister half of the Husband's. And thus *Philip* the Bold, Duke of *Burgundy*, bore the Arms of his Wife, the Heiress of *Ludwick* Earl of *Flanders*; by which his first and third Quarters were only seen. The same Practice was very frequent both in Upper and Lower *Germany*, and in *Scotland* also, as is evident by Mr. *Nisbet*, in the noble Family of *Seton*, and others. But to cease further Enquiries of this Nature, Posterity saw the Inconveniencies of such Practices in the obscuring principal Figures, and clouding variety of Bearings; and so at last fixed upon our modern Custom of entire Impalements; of which you may see numerous Examples in the Plates and Blazons of our Nobilities Atchievements.

The second Form of bearing the Wife's Coat, is, when the Marriage, according to *Guillim*, is hereditary: By which he means, when the Lady is an Heiress, and had also brought her Husband an Heir, to secure to his Family her Patrimony and Lands. This is done by what our *English* Heralds call an Escutcheon of Pretence, as it argues the Pretence, of the Husband to her said Estate; which said Escutcheon is placed Sur tout, his own Bearings in the Centre of the Shield: Examples of which you have many among the Nobilities Plates and Blazons. Of the Antiquity of this Escutcheon Sur tout, and the several Intendments to which it hath been used by other Nations.

Nations. See my Additions to *Guillim's* last Section of his Display.

Thus much for Arms of Marriage. I come now to Arms of Alliance, or Descent, which is chiefly expressed by quartering Coats one with another.

A quartered Coat, is, when the Shield is divided, as it were, per Cross, into four Areas or Quarters, containing in each a Coat.

The Distinction Sir *John Ferne* makes, is, first, a plain quartered Coat, which is the Arms of Father and Mother; (she being an Heiress) the Father's in the first and fourth, and the Mother's in the second and third Quarters.

Secondly, a quartered Coat, as when there are four different Coats, or but three with a Repetition of the first in the fourth Quarter.

His third Distinction is, what he calls a Coat quarterly quartered; by which, I suppose, he means, when there are many of those Areas with Arms; or else, where four grand Quarters meet, and the like. Instances of all which you may find among the Plates and Blazons of the Nobility.

Now as the *English* Custom is to quarter together the Arms of Father and Mother, she being an Heiress, thereby forming the plain quartered Coat, according to Sir *John's* Definition; so upon a Marriage of the same Line with any other Heiress, her Issue shall add her Arms in the third Quarter, and so of a fourth, and so on.

'Tis also observable, that if any of these Heiresses be Descendants of Families, who of their own Right did

(lxxxiii)

did quarter Arms, then must also all those Arms be halled in ; nay, if any of those can be found, of like Title, theirs must come in also, till sometimes we have fifty in one Shield, and those (it may be) by one or two Heiresses to the Line that use them ; and yet, no honorary Coat, Title, or perhaps considerable Patrimony, descendable by either ; which renders such our Practice vain, silly, and confused ; and of whom we could take it I cannot imagine, unless from the *Germans* ; for all other Nations, even the *Scotts*, avoid, as much as may be, this confused Multiplicity, and quarter only such as were real and considerable Heiresses, even to the Line ; unless with such came also the Coat of some dignified Feu, or the like, which they quarter with the Coat of the Heiress in one grand Quarter quartered, as is suitable to the End of marshalling Arms together in one Shield : Yet some, and such too as ought to know better, think it a very useful and bright Discovery, to find what they call *all* the Quarterings, to which such a Person may plead what they call his Right by Descent.

Suppose, that a Person marries the sole Heir of a private Gentleman, second Son to a third, of a fifth, of a sixth Son of the elder Line of a House, who is noble, and hath Right to many Quarterings, the principal of which were the Notes of dignified Feus, and which may have brought a Title, or Titles, to the elder Line ; I say, suppose all this, is it not Vanity in the Issue of such Match to set forth the Ensigns of such dignified Feus, &c. to which it hath not either any seeming Pretence or Expectation ? I am sure, from

the Practice, and in the Opinion, of all Nations except our own, it must be judged so; because the publick marshaling of Arms in this Nature are tacit Claims, and were at first intended, and always since understood every where, but with us, to argue a real Right by Possession, Pretence, or Expectation, which is always presumed to be in such near Cadets as are actually *in Familia*. But when they come to be *extra*, and constitute new Houses, I see both little Cause, and little Right, to the carrying them, especially by the Issue of their female Heirs; but however, thus we do, when even the Honour, Estate, &c. is gone with female Heirs of the elder Line; from which we pretend Extraction, even by five or six Removes, and some through quite other Families: But of these Things, and such like, see more in my Additions to *Guillim*.

The first who quartered Arms in *England* was King *Edward* the Third, who bore *England* and *France* in Right of his Mother *Isabel*, Daughter and Heir of *Philip* the Fourth of *France*, and Heir also to her three Brothers successively Kings of *France*; which the same King afterwards changed to *France* and *England*, upon his laying claim to the said Kingdom. And about the end of his Reign did his Subjects begin to imitate him, and quarter the Arms of their maternal Ancestry; the first of whom is said to be *Hastings*, Earl of *Pembroke*: And thus ends my Discourse upon Quarterings.

In my dividing the Accidents of Arms into Tincture and Differences, I held it proper to wave the latter Division to this Place; that whatever I might advance in such my Discourse, might be rendred intelligible from the many Rules and Observations intervening; wherefore I gave only Mr. *Guillim's* Definition, which related as well to what he calls Abatements, as such Marks as younger Houses had taken to distinguish themselves from the elder and direct Line.

These Abatements he delivers from *Gerard Leigh*, and others of about those Times; telling us, they were certain Marks or Figures given to express Adultery, Cowardice, Lying, and the like; but forgets to give us one Instance of their Use.

This is so ridiculous a Fiction, and so repugnant to the very Nature and End of Arms, as sure no one would presume to assert, except one, who upon his heraldical Credit thinks the World obliged implicitly to believe whatever he shall advance, without looking for either Reason or Custom. For Arms being ever Marks of Honour, can never admit of any Additaments of Infamy or Disgrace; for then would they cease to be Arms: And besides, 'tis unnatural to imagine, when Men may chuse whether they will carry any thing or no, that they should use, or make shew of, Marks to their own Infamy and Disgrace: So that dropping this as a ridiculous Imposition, I will proceed to speak of such additional Figures as are taken to distinguish Cadets from the elder Lines; which Differences, both by Lawyers and Herald, have been termed *Diminutiones Armorum*; and these things are

the only Abatements which Arms do, or by their Natures can admit; and Abatements they may be termed, in that they shew a Removal from the main Honour and Estate.

The Means of doing this among the Ancients, were very different from our present Custom, and more instructive, as will appear by a Treatise I have prepared for that Purpose, as mentioned in the first part of this Work; and so I proceed to the Practice in Mode.

The minute Differences now in Use, I have heard to receive, beginning about the Time of King *Henry the Seventh*, and are as follow,

The eldest Son during the Life of his Father, differenceth his Arms by a Label of three Points; the second, by a Crescent; the third, by a Mullet; the fourth, by a Martlet; the fifth, by an Annulet; and the sixth, by a Fleur de Lis.

To these, some have added three more; that is, for the seventh, a Rose; for the eighth, a Cross Moline; and for the ninth, a double Quaterfoile; all which they repeat over again by the Way of Super-Charges on the former. As for Instance, a second Son of a second Son adds a Crescent upon the Crescent born by his Father; a second of a third, a Crescent upon a Mullet, and so on: And in a third Generation, the second Son of the second Son in the second Descent, adds another Crescent upon his second Crescent, whereby there are three one upon another; and so also of the rest; whereby 'tis impossible, that many Removes can be expressed, or that those Cadets *extra Familiam* can be distinguished by them. Neither are they sufficient

cient among such near ones as may be reckoned *in Familia*; because, as all second Brothers, third Brothers, and the like, bear like Differences, here is no Distinction betwixt Uncles, and Nephews, and their Descendants: Nor can we tell, out of what Descent any Cadet might spring, which is a Matter as necessary, as the Distinction of Brothers; which last, I think, is all that this Method of differencing is fit for.

Examples of this our Practice, you will find many among the Plates and Blazons of the Nobility.





CHAP. V.

Of the external Ornaments, &c.

HE external Ornaments of the Shield are many; for in *France* there is not any high Office, Ecclesiastical or Civil, but has its Note, whereby the Bearer is in that manner distinguished: Which might also be done in *England*, did but such as practice Arms give themselves a little more Trouble; for all such Adjuncts may be arbitrarily taken, or left, being no part of the hereditary Coats, yet the absolute Notes, and on that account Properties (if they think fit) of those who enjoy such honourable Employments.

I do not observe among us, this Custom of distinguishing such great Men, save, in the bearing the Lord Chancellor's Purse before him; and no where by Arms, save, of the Knights of the Garter, of the Earl Marshal, the Bishops, Kings of Arms, and a few more; which would be proper, and an Improvement to our Practice, to use in all such Cases, and upon all Occasions: But however, of these,

these, and such like, see my Additions to the last Section of *Guillim*. I shall here speak only of our own Practice, which, besides those already, are,

First, the Helmet, which is placed upon the Head, or Top, of the Escutcheon, and according to its Form and Position denotes the Quality of the Bearer in such sort as follow.



The first of these Helmets denotes an Esquire or Gentleman, and differs from the second, which represents a Knight, in that it is placed sideways, and with the Beaver close shut; whereas the other is full right and open.

The third Figure is, as all the *Nobiles Majores*, from the Baronet to the Sovereign, bear theirs; only with this Distinction, that Princes of the Blood bear theirs of massy Gold; whereas, those of the other Nobility are of Steel, and gilt only on their Grills and Gorgets; as the Vizor, and Gorget, or Breast-Pieces of the other two are: Some I know will have it, Princes of the Blood differ not from the other Nobility.

The fourth and last is of massy Gold, and is for the Prince himself, and such only as exercise Sovereign Authority and Jurisdiction.

The

The next Thing observable, is, the Torce or Wreath; which represents pieces of Silk twisted, according to the Colours of the Arms, thereby composing and directing the several Liveries of the Bearers; on which Account all the Tinctures of the Coat ought to be expressed, though our Custom is for the two predominant ones only.

This Wreath is of very antient Use, being introduced from Tiltings, Tournaments, and the like; and its Seat is betwixt the Helmet and the Crest.

In latter Days some Kings of Arms, especially about the Reign of Queen *Elizabeth*, and since, have often laid Wreaths aside, and in lieu thereof have given Coronets, such as the Ducal Coronet, and some others; in Imitation of those in Use among the antient *Romans*, as *Corona Muralis*, *Navalis*, and *Valle-
ris*; which, being all I have met with in Use among us, follow



The first, viz. a Coronet Mural, the antient *Romans* bestowed upon him who was seen first upon the Wall of his Enemy, at any Storm: 'twas his due, and used only to such Ends, or at least to reward gallant Performances on the Wall, if not only to the very first that mounted: But we have given it to such, as never so much as saw a Storm, or indeed, a Wall of
Forti-

Fortification in their Life time, except that of the Tower of *London*.

The second is the Naval Coronet, composed of the Forecastles of Ships, and given for Services at Sea; of which we our selves have some Instances.

The third is called a Crown Vallery, being composed of Laths, representing Pales and Pallisadoes.

The *Romans* had, besides these, their *Corona Castrensis*, somewhat like the Mural, imitating the Heads of Castles or Towers, where that doth Battlements above the Circle: This they gave to such as had made a Breach in an Enemy's Castle; and which, with the rest hitherto mentioned, were of Gold.

They had also their *Corona Ovalis*, representing a Victory with little Hazard, which was made of Myrtle; their *Corona Civica*, made of Oaken Boughs, for rescuing a Citizen; their *Corona Obsidialis*, of Grass, for preserving an Army; their *Corona Olivaris*, which was composed of Olive Leaves, and denoted Victory in the Olympick Games; their *Corona Hederalis*, of Ivy, for their Poets; and *Corona Populea*, for such Youths as were found industrious in the Pursuit of virtuous Studies: All which, rightly applied, would look extreamly well in our Augmentations, &c. but not to be given at the Humour of the Bearer, or to flatter him; which, I doubt, was often the Case among the Numbers granted by Mr. *Clarenceux Cook*, and others. But to return.

Next to the Wreath, above it, is placed the Crest, which generally speaking with us, among our old Families, is an additional Cognizance to their Arms,
and

and taken from the antient Devices, with which the Antients used to adorn their Helmets, that they might look more terrible in Battle. This Custom being with us later much than Arms, I believe the first Crests were generally the Badges of our antient Nobility, and such like; of which more at large.

The Mantle and Scroll offer themselves next, and then is compleat what our Heralds term the Atchievement of an Esquire, or Gentleman.

Sir *George Mackenzie* gives us a pretty Narrative, concerning the Rise of these Mantles.

It was a Custom of old, saith he, for Gentlemen to cover, or case their Helmets; not only to keep them clean, but also to prevent the ill Consequences of their too much dazzling the Eye in Action. Hence it was, that many of them became cut and slash'd after various manners; which jagged Scantlings the Wind wrought into various Flutterings and Curlings upon, and about, their Helmets: Whence, for the Honour accruing by the great Dangers which those jagged Scantlings openly declared them to have been in, did Heralds represent the same about the Helmets of their Atchievements; which antiently were painted but just about the Helmets.

Others, and indeed most, take them to arise from the various Attires, that the Antients used to ornament their Helmets with upon publick Shews, such as Tournaments, and the like; which loose spreading Cover was generally attended with lesser Scantlings as Ribons, &c. both which alike playing in the Wind, was their Occasion: The Form of thus dressing their
Helmets

Helmets, appears upon the reverse of most of the antient Seals of our Kings, &c.

On this account, our Workmen in their Mantles ought to avoid all *French* Foliage as improper, or whatever may represent Heaviness or carved Work; and as much as may be (in a broad Light) represent Silk; which 'tis plain they are; and to let their Tumbings or Flutterings seem as Light as may be; whence too many Ribs in their Doublings can neither be pleasant or pertinent.

These Mantles formerly were composed of the Colours of the Coats, of which I have seen several Grants which mention the same; but of later Years, we all, as *Englishmen*, conform to the Colours of the *English* Standard, or that of St. George, viz. White, and Gules; which Term is more natural in this Place to express those Lines or Doublings than Argent. The Mantling of the Royal Atchievement is Cloth of Gold; and its Lining, the Fur Ermine.

As to the Scroll, 'tis only a Label playing generally about the bottom of the Shield, designed for some Motto or verbal Device; of which you may see many in the Noblemens Plates. They are all at any Man's Choice, and may be arbitrarily taken or left, as Accident or Humour shall direct: They are very antient, and owe their being to the old cries of War, and many of them allusive to the Bearings with which they are carried.

These Things put together constitute an Esquire's Atchievement, as they do also a Nobleman's, with these Differences: First, his Mantling is always lin'd with

with the Fur, Ermine, and the Coronet of his highest Title must be upon the Shield, out of which his proper Helmet as before must arise, bearing up his Crest, &c. all within the Ensigns of such sovereign Orders of Knighthood, as they may be Companions of, and supported by such Figures, as at the Times of their Ennoblements were granted them to use as further distinguishing Marks of their high Rank in Nobility: Which Figures are sometimes Men, Women, Beasts, and Birds; generally elected from their antient Badges, or out of their Crests, or the Coats or Crests of such Families, as their honourable Baronies might descend to them by either Marriages, Adoptions, or the like; of which I have not room in this Place to treat more particularly.

